Daily Report

Latin America

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FBIS-LAT-90-118 *19 June 1990*

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Calderon Closes Antigua Economic Summit

PA1806141090 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0424 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Speech by Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon at the closing of the Central American economic summit in Antigua, Guatemala on 17 June—live]

[Text] Your Excellencies the Central American presidents, Your Excellencies the Salvadoran and Panamanian first ladies, ministers, ambassadors, Central American brothers:

Tonight we have concluded a special working session with great satisfaction. Today, I would like to stress that thanks to Guatemalan hospitality and the special hospitality of this city, a cultural legacy of humanity, the presidents and representatives of the governments of the region were able to work amid an atmosphere of fraternity, friendship, and solidarity. This solidarity and friendship undoubtedly reflect the way our people feel today. Our people have expressed their increasing desire to come closer and unite their destinies to attain true development.

You have seen how the Antigua Declaration reiterates our commitment to respect the basic human rights of the people of Central American. We have also reiterated our conviction and faith in free elections and our political resolve to improve and strengthen our countries' electoral and judicial systems. We could not avoid mentioning our permanent desire to effect significant reductions in military expenditures in each of our countries to be able to invest those resources to resolve the social problems of our people. Along with our political statement, we have issued the first in-depth statement that should lead us to the solution of our region's social and economic problems. The phrase that we have cited is a phrase used by Pope Paul VI when he said: The new word for peace is development. Development is the new word for peace, because there cannot be peace in Central America as long as there are thousands and thousands of Central American households that suffer from hunger. There cannot be peace in Central America as long as our people do not inhabit decent homes and as long as they lack proper health services and social security. There cannot be peace in Central America as long as our new generations lack the opportunities to study and improve themselves.

When we urged our countries to join in efforts to attain socioeconomic development, we mentioned our commitment to struggle for our countries' large majorities. We mentioned our commitment to struggle for authentic economic democratization and our commitment to promote the development of small businesses and to achieve modernization, efficiency, and effectiveness in our corresponding governments. We mentioned our commitment to open to new markets and invest our resources in those fields where we are truly efficient, because in that way we will increase our imports and consequently improve the wellbeing of our people.

We have also stated that this long-term process, which will bring progress to our countries, sometimes demands short-term sacrifices. Along with the sacrifices that our people will have to make, however, there will be social development and plans to compensate for those short-term sacrifices that will undoubtedly bring much well-being to our communities in the long run.

These small Central American nations have united in this effort. All these nations can say that they are present here today thanks to the efforts of the Central Americans themselves and international support. Present here today are six presidents elected in free elections by the people's sovereign will.

We are thus asking the international community—a community represented here by the ambassadors of friendly countries—to give us a hand and help us in the struggle that we are beginning today. We are not asking for charity. We are telling you that here we have Central American people who will contribute with their work, effort, and dedication. However, they also require the helping hand of the developed world. Thank you very much. [applause]

Presidents React to U.S. Plan for Assistance

PA1806214890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1849 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] During a working breakfast today, U.S. Secretary of State James Baker presented to the Central American presidents in Antigua, Guatemala, his government's plan for obtaining aid for the region to support the consolidation of the Central American peace plan. This was outlined during a joint news conference held by the five Central American presidents. Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said the U.S. plan presented by U.S. Secretary of State Baker seeks the international support of 24 countries in three main areas: democratization, disarmament, and development in Central America. Baker said that the idea is to seek support from industrialized countries. This in turn could lead to the creation of a bilateral and multilateral fund for Central America. We are satisfied with U.S. willingness to let us decide to structure and organize the regional economic development project, Cristiani said. He also said that it is good to know that it will be possible to create an aid fund to guarantee the consolidation of peace and development in Central America.

For Nicaraguan President Violeta de Chamorro, the most important part of this U.S. project is that Baker did not present conditions during the dialogue, which was open and pleasant, Chamorro said. What counts is the reasonable conclusions that were reached. Baker presented no conditions and we Central Americans will not accept any, Chamorro remarked.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo said that the U.S. idea of assistance for Central America should be taken advantage of because the funds approved for Central

America have been taken from the U.S. Defense Department's budget. The meeting between Baker and Chamorro is scheduled for 1330. During this current round of talks, Baker met with Honduras President Rafael Leonardo Callejas and Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon.

Nicaragua will be the third Central American country to hold talks with Baker.

Callejas Says 'No Conditions' To Baker Offer

PA1806200190 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1846 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Antigua (Guatemala), 18 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—At the end of his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker today, Honduran President Rafael Callejas said that "there are no conditions of substance" in Baker's offer to create an economic aid group for Central America.

Callejas—the first president to meet with Baker after the breakfast-meeting that all the leaders of the region, including the Panamanian leader, had with the U.S. secretary of state—said that the plans for economic aid presented by the representative from Washington "are prompted by goodwill and an interest to take care of the area's most urgent development programs."

However, he said, the project "responds to mutual interests" because the development of Central America guarantees to the United States "peaceful allies and a stable market for its products."

"Now that Central Americans are taking important steps toward democracy, leaving autocracy behind, it is logical for the United States to show that it is willing to reinforce our will," which coincides with the "recommendations" that the Washington administration made to the region.

The international aid project that Baker presented to the presidents who concluded an economic summit in Antigua yesterday, is a message of "solidarity and support" and involves the cooperation of the United States, the European Community, and Japan, and could also include funds from Mexico, Venezuela and other industrialized countries.

Callejas, the first president to return to his country today following a two-day meeting with the rest of his colleagues of the area, described the proposal as "a positive and new mechanism," but stressed that "we must wait for it to take shape."

Regarding the bilateral talks with Baker, Callejas emphasized that "because of the excellent relations we have with the United States, the meeting was held without any discrepancies."

Callejas took advantage of the meeting, which lasted half an hour, to assess the stopgap loan that his country requested from the United States to cancel the delinquency in its bilateral and multilateral debt to again become eligible for credit.

Honduras, with a $3.444 billion debt, "is leading the negotiations to pay its international obligations along a favorable path," the president emphasized.

Calderon Notes Positive U.S. Attitude

PA1806204890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1922 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Antigua, Guatemala, 18 Jun (NOTIMEX)—"It is up to the United States to take the lead in (obtaining) increased aid for Central America," Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon said today in Antigua.

Following a 30-minute bilateral meeting today with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Calderon said that the United States' attitude toward Central America is positive.

Concerning his country's relations with the United States, Calderon said "we have no serious difficulties with them...we have said that we need a little more bilateral aid."

Calderon, one of the six presidents who will meet today with the secretary of state, explained that Baker said that his government agrees that it should cooperate with Costa Rica to the extent possible.

Calderon said that the aid his country is asking of the United States is in addition to that which all of the Central American countries are to receive through a Group of 24 (G-24, the industrialized countries) cooperation plan for the area.

Calderon is the second Central American president who met with Baker. Honduran President Rafael Leonardo Callejas met hours earlier with the U.S. secretary of state.

Cristiani on Meeting With Baker, Rebel Talks

PA1806215090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Report by Antonio Ortega]

[Text] Antigua, Guatemala, 18 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani said today that a cease-fire will be discussed during the meeting with the Salvadoran guerrilla groups, which will begin tomorrow, 19 June, in Mexico City.

Following a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Antigua, the president said it is difficult to predict the results of the meeting with the rebels, even though, he emphasized, the first topic of the agenda approved in Caracas will be analyzed.

Cristiani recalled that the first phase consists of a cease-fire between the Armed Forces and the Farabundo Marti

National Liberation Front (FMLN), and the second phase deals with the FMLN guerrilla groups' demobilization.

Asked about the length of the dialogue in Mexico City, Cristiani said that the minimum time for the talks will be one week, because the idea is to reach agreements even if the talks take longer than that. He said that many talks are necessary to reach an agreement between the parties in conflict.

Referring to the topics discussed with Baker, Cristiani said that one of the most important ones was the U.S. aid to El Salvador, which the Bush administration intends to grant based on a bipartisan policy.

He said that the aid will not be contingent on anything because the dialogue currently under way should not be endangered now that "we seem to be on the verge of gaining peace."

Cristiani, the third of the six presidents to meet with the U.S. secretary of state in Antigua, said that he talked with Baker about Cuba and regional policies, but he gave no details.

He also indicated that Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo had given him the report on the assassination of Salvadoran leftist leader Hector Oqueli, that recently occurred in Guatemala, adding that the document has no evidence against any Salvadoran.

The president said that Cerezo gave him a 60-page report "which I have not had time to read."

Cristiani was put in charge of reading a brief summary of the presidents' meeting with Baker, which was interpreted here as a sign of the Salvadoran president's leadership. "I do not seek leadership. We want a consensus," he said.

"I shall be the dean of the Central American presidents next year anyway, but this is a matter of election dates," he said.

He also emphasized that the Central American people seek a consensus and maintain their sovereignty intact because, even though small, they are sovereign and they deserve respect.

Chamorro Comments on Talks With Baker

PA1806233590 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2156 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Antigua, (Guatemala), 18 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro could ask for more U.S. aid for her country, but "at the proper time," according to statements made by Chamorro today following her meeting with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Guatemala.

Chamorro, who participated in the regional economic summit held in Antigua, Guatemala during the weekend, told the press that her meeting with Baker was "very pleasant" and that they talked about "political and economic" issues.

The president did not rule out that "later on we may talk about the possibility of the United States increasing the economic aid it is currently providing us."

Baker traveled to Antigua, located 45 km southwest of Guatemala City, to present the presidents with a U.S. Government proposal to create an international aid fund for Central America.

All the presidents held private meetings with Baker before returning to their countries.

Panamanian President Guillermo Endara, who participated in the summit as an observer, will return to his country tomorrow.

Endara, who also met with Baker, told the press that "no special topics were discussed" and that during the short conversation held, they went over the details of the bilateral programs already in place by the two countries.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, who hosted the summit, will accompany Baker to the Guatemalan capital, from where he will depart to the United States during the evening. It was initially reported that Baker would travel from Guatemala City to Panama, but State Department sources denied it.

The summit served to reach new economic and political agreements that will promote an integration process in the area.

SELA Seeks Joint Solution for Regional Debt

PA1806193990 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1743 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Caracas, 18 Jun (DPA)—Representatives of the 26 countries that make up the Latin American Economic System (SELA) today began a regional conference seeking a joint solution for the foreign debt crisis.

SELA Permanent Secretary Carlos Perez del Castillo said that the foreign debt still "threatens the sovereignty and security of the region," and urged SELA countries to make a "concerted effort" to face the problem.

The foreign debt of Latin America and the Caribbean amounts to approximately $430 billion.

The meeting, which will become a ministerial meeting on 21-22 June, will discuss a proposal drafted in March the main point of which is a 75-percent reduction in transfers abroad to pay the debt service.

The reason for the meeting, Perez del Castillo stressed, is not simply to draft a general declaration, it must promote a regional joint initiative on this matter.

Other points of the basic document that will be discussed propose mechanisms to negotiate according to the type

of debt—with commercial banks, other governments, multilateral financial organization, and the inter-Latin American debt.

In 1989, payments to service the Latin American and Caribbean debt amounted to $40 billion, a figure that SELA believes can be reduced to one-fourth its size.

Perez del Castillo emphasized that the conference must take into consideration the stages of negotiation of each of the countries, an aspect that, according to some participants, could lead to controversies in the debate, especially from those that favor "case by case" negotiation.

If a reduction in transfers is not applied, Del Castillo predicted a drastic drop in consumption and revenues with "political and social consequences that are unacceptable."

For this reason, SELA proposes a reduction in the debt with commercial banks from an average of 27.5 percent of its nominal value at the end of 1989 to the value it currently has in the secondary market. The debt would be paid with 35-year bonds at fixed interest rates that would reflect each country's capacity to pay.

On Wednesday, former Italian chief of government Bettino Craxi, who is currently the UN secretary general's personal representative for foreign debt matters; Jacques Attali, French President Francois Mitterand's adviser; and Citicorp President William Rhodes will participate in a symposium that is being held parallel to this SELA meeting.

Argentine Economy Minister Erman Gonzalez and Jose Angel Gurria, Mexico's foreign debt negotiator, will also participate in this event.

IDB To Finance Central American Integration

PA1806153890 Paris AFP in Spanish 1645 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Antigua, Guatemala, 17 Jun (AFP)—The Inter-American Development Bank [IDB] will increase its financial assistance to Central American countries to encourage their economic integration and support the region's "democratic reconstruction," IDB president Enrique Iglesias has announced.

Iglesias, who was specially invited to the economic summit to be concluded in Antigua today, said that, according to the IDB, "democracy and development go hand in hand" and that for this reason the IDB will lend money to Central American countries "to attack the economic stagnation and social backwardness."

Although he said that the overall amount of the new loans has not yet been determined, he said "the amount will be substantial."

According to Iglesias, the loan programs for each country are being debated. He also said that Nicaragua, Panama, and Honduras are negotiating to amortize the overdue portion of their obligations with the institution. As soon as these countries do this, they will again be considered credit-worthy subjects.

The overdue portion of Nicaragua's debt—the country did not receive any IDB assistance over the past seven years—reaches $60 million, which the government of Violeta Chamorro plans to amortize with funds from an international loan.

Iglesias explained that the new IDB loans—the institution has lent $5 billion to Central America over the past 30 years—are oriented to supporting small-scale enterprises, rebuilding the economic infrastructure, and creating an emergency social fund to meet needs in the health and housing areas.

In addition, the IDB plans to make loans to the region in general for making possible its integration in the fields of energy and telecommunications and science and technology transfer programs.

Cuba

Vice Minister Viera Discusses Soviet Relations

PY1506232690 Moscow in Spanish to Cuba 0030 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Interview with First Vice Foreign Minister Jose Raul Viera by Radio Moscow commentator Vladimir Stigneyev; place and date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] [Stigneyev] How are the 30 years of Cuban-Soviet relations evaluated in Cuba?

[Viera] Well, for Cuba the relations with the Soviet Union have had a prominent state character and have played a decisive role. The Cuban revolution was carried out thanks to the efforts of the Cuban people, and it is the result of their own effort. No doubt, without the opportune help of the Soviet Union and the support of the Soviet people, it would have been very difficult for our revolution to secure the country's independence and sovereignty, as well as its economic development during these 30 years. I believe that the change brought about by the October revolution opened new prospects for national struggles in the Third World. No doubt, the direct aid to the Cuban revolution that was implemented as soon as the United States imposed a blockade on oil supplies to Cuba and suspended the sugar quota the Cuban people used to export to the United States for long years helped. This double aggression had a response from us who decided to resist even without oil and sugar earnings, as well as from the Soviet Union who immediately opened a market for that sugar and guaranteed oil supplies to Cuba.

Moreover, I believe that the Soviet Union's help to Cuba during these 30 years has had a broader repercussion, because it demonstrated that it was possible to carry out an anticolonial revolution, to get free from imperialist rule, and to prove that we are not alone in the world. I believe that at the time of the Cuban revolution, our friendship with, and help from, the Soviet Union became a symbol for the possibility of carrying out a struggle for national independence and full sovereignty in the Third World. It destroyed the myth of geographical fatalism.

Lastly, the help during these 30 years allowed us to survive economically in the first moments, and to make continuous social and economic progress later. I believe that there is no sector of the economy in Cuba where there are no signs of Cuban-Soviet cooperation.

[Stigneyev] Comrade Viera, another question. Have there been new changes in these relations in the past five years, since perestroyka began in the Soviet Union? If so, what are those changes?

[Viera] The changes that have been introduced in the management of the Soviet economy, its restructuring, and the difficult, tumultuous period the Soviet Union has entered upon in carrying out the reforms prescribed by the perestroyka, have had repercussions in the Soviet Union's relations with all other countries. In the case of Cuba, the repercussions are not politically negative. The Soviet Government has reiterated all these years its will to fulfill all the agreements and commitments with Cuba, on the Cuban side, the will to continue developing these relations has been reiterated.

Therefore, if these relations have in some way been affected, we would have to look into the consequences of the changes; that is, we would have to look into the difficulties created by a period of transformations. As for the political decision to maintain this friendship, however, there has been no change. I believe that the stability and solid basis of our relations have been underscored by the visit of comrade Mikhail Gorbachev to Cuba, when a friendship and cooperation treaty between the two countries was signed. This has also been recently demonstrated at the meeting of the joint commission for economic cooperation here in Havana, which was attended by Vice President Abalkin. In addition, we have to mention that our business transactions have substantially increased this year. More yet, a joint commission, headed by Minister Kapitov for the Soviet side and Minister Ricardo Cabrisas for the Cuban side, is analyzing the conditions for continuing our relations in the next five years.

I cannot really foresee any obstacle of a political character to continuing stable and solid relations between Cuba and the Soviet Union.

[Stigneyev] Do you think there are difficulties and problems in these relations?

[Viera] Look, first we have to consider what kinds of problems you mean. If we are talking about basic problems or problems that could harm our relations from the fraternal point of view, I must say that there are no problems. On the contrary, the relation between Cuba and the USSR has lately improved on both sides. I do not think there are such obstacles.

Things change, and our countries are undergoing transformations. The USSR is going through a program of reforms, while Cuba is undergoing a rectification process. The result of this transformation brings new times. There are however, some difficulties, but which are not negative. They are difficulties which are the result of a change that must improve our cooperation and recovery.

[Stigneyev] What do you think about the (?expectations)?

[Viera] Well, I think this is a relationship with great expectations, because the past 30 years have not gone by in vain. We are not talking about a friendship between two countries based on illusions. We are talking about a friendship with substance. The tens of thousands of Cubans who have travelled to the USSR, the students who graduated in the USSR, the thousands of Soviet experts who remained in Cuba, have forged our human relations. To these human relations we must add that we have learned to carry out things together.

Investments have and are being made in our economy with Soviet aid. Together we faced different labor conditions in the tropics, in the different climates of the USSR. There are relations between our commercial fleets and our fishing fleets. There are relations between our scientists. That is a basis on which we can plan a better future development. This depends a lot on the success of the Soviet reform and of the Cuban rectification process. Everyone wants the growth and strengthening of the Soviet and Cuban economies. We want stability for our two countries. We want to be able to predict periods of calmness from the point of view of politics and the unity of our peoples headed by their governments.

Raul Castro Attends Opening of UJC Plenum

FL1506181090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Excerpt] With the presence of Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, the extraordinary plenum of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] National Committee began this morning. It is debating as its only point the document for the fourth party congress.

[Begin UJC First Secretary Roberto Robaina recording] If they asked us what this plenum we are beginning today should be like, we would quote one of the simple lines of Jose Marti: Frank, faithful, fierce, and without viciousness. The call is in and of itself a clear document that does not impose limits at any time, and this allows it to be an excellent basis for discussion.

Our society, our young people, our party, and Fidel would never forgive us if we let this moment pass without giving our opinions sincerely and without contributing to the debate—which we need so much—what we can really contribute. You have the floor; let us begin the discussion. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Robaina Remarks on Activities

FL1606030990 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Communist Party [PCC] of Cuba Central Committee and Revolutionary Armed Forces Minister, is presiding over the sixth plenum of the National Committee of the Union of Young Communists [UJC], which is analyzing the call for the Fourth PCC Congress. PCC Politburo members Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Vilma Espin and PCC alternate Politburo member Roberto Robaina, among other leaders, are also in attendance. We immediately contact Dianelis Garcia Sixto who is with us in the studio to learn how the UJC plenum has developed and is developing. Dianelis?

[Garcia] Good evening, Cesar and all "Exclusivo" newscast listeners. The sixth plenum of the UJC National Committee is discussing the call for the fourth PCC Congress. Since 0900, the young Communists, meeting at the Julio Antonio Mella Cadres School, have focused the debate where the problems really are, on the limitations. Clear remarks, without reservations, show that the young people have today their right place. As you were saying, Army General Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Central Committee, and Politburo members Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Vilma Espin are participating in the discussions.

"Exclusivo" friends, so that you can get a closer feel of one of the plenum's moments, I leave you now with Roberto Robaina, first secretary of the UJC

[Begin Robaina recording] Everything is complicated here in terms of paperwork. Things like getting married, getting a divorce, transferring, moving, the paperwork called (?oficoba), getting into places. In order for a student to be able to go with his cousin or brother—who by chance attends another pre-university school—to the vacation time agricultural labor, he needs to go to meet with a number of people, go through steps, and get numerous authorizations.

Also, there are a number of signs. You leave your house and enter a work center and the first thing you see are signs saying: Do not step on this, Do not smoke, Do not pass, Do not enter. One lives totally.... [changes thought] We believe that we have to attempt to make a contribution—as far as the UJC is concern—regarding the idea that we do not have to scold people constantly, direct them constantly, guide them constantly.

I keep giving an example of a morning meeting held at 0750. The small children arrive, they group and start talking. The first thing that happens at a morning meeting at 0830 is that teachers, the principal, and even the Federation of Secondary School Students president or UJC representative tell them: I believe we have to be punctual. Comrade, I am already here. This talk is for those who are outside. Why are they telling me this? I arrived on time. I was punctual. The ones who arrive late are not let in. Why should I be welcomed with this sermon if I already arrived?

The thing is that we do things mechanically and this keeps people very tense. We believe that this is something we have to look into.

Regarding the famous subject of free time, I think that all the options given were important. I believe that the most important thing to achieve is that the young people and the population—but as far as we are concerned .... [changes thought] The first thing that is needed is that there be free time, that there be free time. If it is my time, please let me do what I want. [end recording]

Raul Castro Remarks on Results

FL1606175590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] The sixth plenum of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] National Committee ended last night after

15 hours of discussion. Army General Raul Castro, who attended the meeting, commented to the press in a few words of farewell about how the issues were dealt with in depth at this meeting and at the extraordinary party plenums.

[Begin recording] [Raul Castro] From the beginning, the meetings of the municipal committees, but especially at the base level, especially at the work and study centers, are going to be more important. That is where there will be not only the communists, the UJC, but all the people.

[Unidentified reporter] The expectations the party had about encouraging good discussions, based on these good discussions?

[Castro] We are getting there. In the beginning, no, but now we are getting there. As you saw, they are very profound, very serious, joyful at times, as is characteristic of youth, and very democratic, very sincere, as they have to....

[Reporter, interrupting] And the important things that could be....

[Castro, interrupting] There are some very important things that unfortunately, in spite of the 15 hours we spent here, could not be dealt with in depth; that is, the entire range of issues the fourth party congress document mentions. In a word—and I think I am expressing the feelings of our party leadership, especially of Comrade Fidel—we are always becoming prouder of our young people, of the young people they represent here at this time, at this meeting. [end recording]

Raul Castro Calls Plenum 'Useful'

PA1706044390 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] Raul Castro, second secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], has termed as useful and satisfactory the plenum of the National Committee of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] that was held in Havana and analyzed the call for the PCC's Fourth Congress. Castro, who is also minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, said he had ascertained that, without needing an artificial unanimity, we all advocate socialism and we all want to perfect our proletarian and socialist democracy and make it work.

The document was also subject to a debate in a PCC provincial plenum in Holguin, on the country's eastern sector, which ended early on Saturday, 16 June. The meeting was characterized by concise and thorough analyses marked by the wish to help perfect the party's work in society.

The need for a single party as guarantor of the people's unity around the Cuban revolution was also reasserted in the event.

When the last UJC congress was held, many of us said that it was the meeting which best expressed the rectification in which all Cuban society had exerted itself. In recent years we have ascertained how the young people have revitalized their work methods, and they now represent the interests of the youngest generations that are also building socialism.

Every month they take to the streets with vitality, ingenuity, and enthusiasm to confirm their happiness of living in this island and their faithfulness to the chosen road. We must now emphasize with what vitality and courage the UJC discussed the call for the PCC's Fourth Congress. The UJC National Committee plenum held for this purpose included statements which best sum up the worries of all the youths and those of us who wish to perfect our society.

[First unidentifed speaker] *The [word indistinct] is simple. Despite the amount of questions which have existed on the religious issue, we also had some questions—but we also had some answers. It is simple and it has been clearly explained by Comrade Raul [Castro]. The party....[changes thought] It is either a matter of philosophy or of attitude, because we have comrades who profess the Marxist - Leninist philosophy, yet their attitude toward the tasks of the revolution is not the most correct one. Likewise, we have clergymen who profess their religion, yet their attitude toward the tasks of the revolution is exemplary. I think that this is essentially what we have to analyze when deciding if a clergyman may or may not join the party. We must let the party decide if that person does or does not fully abide by the statutes and if he does not fulfill his tasks.*

The above is a customary reflection of our times, and we all expect to find an answer in the upcoming congress.

[Second unidentified speaker] *I was a delegate to the National Assembly of the People's Government, and, in my opinion, the distortion has been such that the delegates have become spokesmen of the administrative officials.*

The UJC meeting was attended by the second secretary of the leading Cuban organization, Raul Castro Ruz.

[Castro] *I have been pleasantly impressed by your quality, by your level, by the seriousness with which you discussed the problems, the sincerity and depth with which—without an artificial unanimity—all want to improve our socialism, to make it function better, to perfect our proletarian and socialist democracy, and to come out well ahead.*

UJC First Secretary Roberto Robaina said he and those of his same age did not have the opportunity to participate in the Granma expedition and others, but they are participating in a situation, in an era that is more important than those in which....[changes thought] Before leaving for Europe and before Che Guevara left Cuba for good, I went to the Pinar del Rio mountains to bid him farewell. I said:

You leave for the adventure of this century. He answered: You are wrong. The adventure of this century was the Granma expedition.

Well, if—according to Che's words—the Granma expedition was the adventure of this century, the current situation, the situation prevailing in the country, entails reaching for the stars. The collapse of the socialist sector and all the consequences that the situation represents for us....[changes thought] In my modest and personal opinion we must now storm the future. We have a past that, although still imperfect, we have conquered and that we must defend in extremely difficult circumstances.

I know that you will have monumental tasks to perform throughout the remainder of this century and part of the next. I am sure that if you remain united under the leadership of our single party and at the service of the people's interests, you will write pages as brilliant—or more brilliant—than the ones our generation, the generation of the centennial, had to write.

FAR Political Leadership Council Meets

FL1506213390 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1945 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] One of the priorities of the rectification process should be the speeding up of government mechanisms and their interrelation with the party. This was stated at the expanded council of the main political leadership of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] which is meeting in this capital today.

The participants of the meeting are discussing the call for the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba Congress. It was noted during the meeting that in the municipalities' and provinces' economic sector there is division, verticality, and homologies, in the various enterprises' groups and that there is a lack of mechanisms to carry out efficient work. It was stressed that this is why the party has had to assume administrative functions, thus, becoming a coordinator and problem solver.

Subjects such as the existing difficulties in the lack of resourcefulness and effectiveness and the use of misinformation to cover up the lack of controls are being discussed at the meeting, among others.

Aldana Says Outcome of PCC Plenums Positive

FL1806143090 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1412 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Carlos Aldana, secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], has said that the analysis of the call for the Fourth PCC Congress is progressing well and it has resumed with a new enthusiasm. Aldana expressed his views on the National Television Newscast after participating in the special provincial PCC plenums in Las Tunas, Holguin, and Guantanamo, during which he heard over 200 speeches and presentations from cadres and party members. He said that this initial effort at reflection will have positive repercussions on debates that will subsequently be held in municipal committees and, most importantly, in the consultations that will be held with workers, collectives, and the masses.

Holguin Province Special Party Plenum Ends

FL1606115590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Last night the extraordinary plenum of the party provincial committee in Holguin ended. During the meeting, a wide-ranging and well-thought-out analysis of the party's management and its actions in society was carried out. Francisco Garcia Ferrer, alternate member of the Central Committee and first party secretary in Holguin, led the debates.

Among the issues discussed by those participating in the plenum, the one concerning the exemplarity and discipline of party members merited considerable interest. Central Committee Secretary Carlos Aldana chaired this plenum, at which the process of discussing the fourth party congress document was carried out.

7th ANPP Session Moved Up to 11 July

FL1506113990 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] The National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] has moved up the date for this year's first meeting of the ANPP. The date of the Seventh Regular Session of the ANPP has thus been moved up from 12 July to 11 July. The call for the meeting issued by ANPP President Juan Escalona Reguera indicates that organizational reasons justify moving up the date.

Malmierca Meets With Peruvian Foreign Minister

FL1606120590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Cuban and Peruvian Foreign Ministers Isidoro Malmierca and Guillermo Larco Cox, respectively, met yesterday in Lima. At this meeting they discussed issues of mutual interest to the two countries. Malmierca received the Peruvian foreign minister at the residence of the Cuban ambassador in Lima. Among the issues discussed by the two ministers were the work of the Nonaligned Movement countries and the development of Cuban-Peruvian relations.

Foreign Minister Begins Visit to Bolivia

FL1606181090 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca arrived today in Bolivia for an official visit that will last until 19 June. Met at the La Paz airport by his Bolivian counterpart Carlos Iturralde, Malmierca expressed Cuba's support for Bolivia's desire to solve the border

problem with Chile and have an outlet to the sea. The Cuban foreign minister stated that his visit will serve to increase bilateral relations and analyze the international situation.

Malmierca also said that both parties will study the possibility of expanding Cuban-Bolivian cooperation within the Nonaligned Movement, of which they are members. The Cuban foreign minister's intense schedule in Bolivia includes a meeting with President Jaime Paz Zamora and the signing of three cooperation agreements concerning economy, science and technology, health, and culture.

Peru's APRA Secretary General Begins Visit

FL1606121590 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Luis Alva Castro, secretary general of the Peruvian APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] party, is making a friendly visit to our country at the head of a delegation of base-level leaders of that political organization. During his stay in Cuba, Alva Castro will hold talks with Cuban party and government officials and give lectures at the University of Havana on the foreign debt.

In a meeting with the Cuban press, Alva Castro, who is also second vice president of Peru, evaluated APRA's actions in its period of government which is now ending.

[Begin Alva Castro recording] We began well. We had excellent administration in the initial years in government. When we began the great changes in the country, the conservative, reactionary, rightist forces in the country without a doubt prevented the progress of a government that was starting profound changes in Peru and that had a consistent message, a plan, a program.

They did not let us govern. They are the ones who are responsible. That is why I always insist in the debates—and I invite debate on this issue with my compatriots—and I tell them they were the ones responsible. Without a doubt, they share the responsibility with us, this responsibility for not giving social justice to our people, which is what the immense majority of Peruvians are seeking and will always seek. [end recording]

About the results of the recent presidential elections held in Peru, Alva Castro answered:

[Begin Alva Castro recording] The way one has to read this elections process, one must conclude with great clarity and with great transparency that the Peruvian people have voted for national consensus and the working together of the popular forces, of the democratic forces that support transformation and social change in Peru. So now, we—not only the political parties, but also all social sectors—have to join together, join our wills together, unite our efforts, and work together for a great national consensus that will allow us to overcome the crisis of violence, the economic crisis, and transform the national state. [end recording]

According to the secretary general, APRA will keep its identity and will cooperate with the future Change 90 government if the latter really works for the benefit of the Peruvian people.

IAPA Award to 'Alleged' Journalists Deplored

PA1606195190 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with Lazaro Barredo, vice president of the Union of Cuban Journalists, by Beatriz Padron; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Padron] As part of the international reactionary circles' current anti-Cuban campaign based on alleged violations of human rights and freedom of the press in Cuba, the Inter-American Press Association, IAPA, has awarded the Pedro Joaquin Chamorro prize in the category of freedom of the press to three alleged Cuban reporters: Elizardo Sanchez Santacruz, Huber Jerez and (Iram Abicovas). They are in jail for common crimes punishable by law.

Radio Havana has called Lazaro Barredo, vice president of the Union of Cuban Journalists, to ask him for his opinion on this.

[Barredo] It is evident that the distinguished IAPA officials are either misinformed or are catering to Washington's anti-Cuban campaign. Neither Sanchez nor (Abicovas) have ever been linked to journalism. Of the three, the only one who had any links to the press was Jerez. He wrote for VERDE OLIVO magazine until January 1983 when he was arrested by the Cuban National Police while breaking into a retirement home to steal valuable objects from Victoria Buelvo, an elderly woman who lived there. This man, who is a criminal, was expelled from our association in January 1983 because of crimes of this type. IAPA grants awards to these kinds of people.

[Padron] As for the other two citizens—Sanchez and (Abicovas)—can it be said without question that the status of reporters that IAPA gives them is totally false?

[Barredo] As vice president of the Union of Cuban Journalists, I am a custodian of the records of cases—which are over 50 years old—of the former Association of Reporters of Cuba and of our current union. I can categorically assert that Sanchez and (Abicovas) have never been members of these two journalists' associations and have not had any links with the press. Even the jail sentence that they are serving does not stem from crimes connected with freedom of the press or freedom of expression in our country but from common crimes punishable by criminal laws anywhere in the world.

These individuals have been used in the anti-Cuban campaign that the United States has launched to misinform world public opinion, particularly the Latin American public opinion, about rights in Cuba. I suppose this is the reason for the arbitrary and aberrant action of granting this award. Not only that but, as I told a correspondent of a foreign news agency today, the award bears the name of a journalist who would die again if he were alive today and saw this award being granted to these kind of people, who have nothing to do with the professional honesty and manly attitude that he maintained as a journalist at all times during his profession.

I think the granting of this honor to those three outlaws is an insult to all honest and progressive journalists on this continent.

[Padron] We thank Barredo for this statements to this station.

* Congestion at Port Storage Facilities Noted

* Lack of Parts Cited

90P40050A Havana GRANMA in Spanish
19 May 90 p 2

[Article by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] Congestion in storage areas and the low degree of technical sophistication of specialized equipment are responsible for the low worker productivity and lack of storage capacity being reported by the port in Havana.

Our investigations indicate that one of the problems—that of equipment—will be solved to some extent by the end of next month when certain necessary parts begin to arrive. However, the problem of congestion, in my view, requires immediate emergency measures to reduce the negative effects.

In order to illustrate somewhat the harm caused by congestion in the storage areas of shipping terminals—they are temporary, not permanent storage areas—I can give the following example: Since the eighth of this month a regular merchant ship carrying general cargo has been sitting idle at dock 21 in the bay of this capital. Port workers there have adopted high productivity work patterns in order to hasten the unloading process. However, if the cargo is not removed at a corresponding rate the free space is filled and the work is held up. As of the 16th of this month the ship has continued to be idle.

Although not as serious, the situation at the Haiphong terminal (its productive potential is comparable to that of the entire port of Nuevitas or Santiago de Cuba) reveals low productivity due to a lack of space for depositing the freight.

Generally speaking, the level of inventory at the Havana port is worrisome. As of the 17th of this month 113,000 tons had not been moved in the storage areas.

This situation has also affected the port at Santiago de Cuba. Because of unloading delays in the capital, the ships headed for this facility as their second stop did not arrive on time; as a result, the labor force and capabilities were underutilized to such a degree that as of 16 May the production goal for unloading had been met by scarcely 28 percent.

The material difficulties are no secret to anyone. Today, due to various objective reasons, the customary level and methods of transportation related to this task are insufficient especially in light of the fact that this is a situation which could compromise the future of this important activity. This requires that special measures be adopted to organize the vehicles currently in service and to coordinate efforts.

The ports are a constant source of important economic struggle for everyone.

* Delays Continue

90P40050B Havana GRANMA in Spanish
23 May 90 p 2

[Article by Emilio del Barrio Menendez]

[Text] National port system operations, as of last Sunday evening, indicate that congestion in the warehouses at the principal shipping terminals continues to be a problem.

Due to the situation in the ports at Mariel, Havana, Cienfuegos, Puerto Padre and Santiago de Cuba, the productivity to which we have become accustomed has been reduced to some extent. As an intermediate problem, this means delays for the ships.

By way of an example: According to dates obtained Monday, we can point to four instances in which merchant ships in different ports reported the possibility of entering demurrage status due to the slowness in unloading cargo.

The most important is the Cuban-flagged Sandino. As of today, it has been delayed 18 days due to a lack of space to unload its merchandise in the port of Nuevitas.

The others are C. Mandarin in Havana City, with eight days delay; the S. Stalski in Cienfuegos, with 5 days; and the 30th of November in Santiago de Cuba, with seven days. And all for the same reason: congested conditions in on-land facilities.

In Mariel 44,800 tons have accumulated; in Havana City, 109,000 tons; in Cienfuegos, 22,700 tons. The volume of immobilized cargo in the country's shipping terminal warehouses has risen to 284,000 tons.

The problems have not been major since the number of arrivals so far this month have been fewer than anticipated. Thus, the tonnage on the ships anchored in Cuban bays is at an acceptable level. The situation would have been different if all planned arrivals had been on time.

This clearly requires action to lower inventories at those sites where work productivity is being reduced by the congestion.

What has been achieved during the year with regard to the average number of days required to unload a ship, from [the time of] the ship's arrival in the country until it is completely empty—the gross intensity—has to be maintained. We can not retreat one millimeter with regard to this.

On average, the first four months of the year point to a gross intensity exceeding the figure agreed upon in international accords. May could finish with volumes above this average.

And this should be followed up to the very end. In this way, benefits will be seen not only with regard to the internal distribution of the products which we import; rather, it will also benefit considerably our national fleet and those of other countries. As a result it will save millions of dollars by reducing spending on freight.

Salinas Departs for Japan, Singapore, Australia

PA1606043090 Mexico City XHTV Television in Spanish 0100 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Report by Rita Ganem]

[Text] President Carlos Salinas de Gortari today left for Japan, Singapore, and Australia. The Mexican Government's presence in the Pacific Basin will allow the strengthening of our country's participation in the world's most dynamic economic region. The president is accompanied by his wife, Cecilia Ocelli de Salinas, and a delegation of 10 Mexican officials.

President Salinas de Gortari left today at 0930 en route to Tokyo, Japan, thus starting a working tour that will also take him to Singapore and Australia. This is his ninth international tour, and the Mexican president will meet with heads of state, ministers, businessmen, bankers, intellectuals, and news media representatives.

A communique from the Presidency indicates that the Mexican president's visit to the Pacific Basin will allow the strengthening of our country's presence in the world's most dynamic economic region, diversify our relations, and broaden the opportunities for trade and investment and co-investment projects, among other goals.

Members of the Cabinet, labor leaders, peasant leaders, and PRI leaders met at the presidential hangar with representatives of the Supreme Court of Justice, the Chambers of Deputies, and the Senate to bid farewell to President Salinas de Gortari and his wife, Cecilia Ocelli de Salinas. The president is accompanied by Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana, Finance Secretary Pedro Aspe, Trade and Industrial Development Secretary Jaime Serra Puche, Urban Development and Ecology Secretary Patricio Chirinos, Fishing Secretary Maria De Los Angeles Moreno, Senator Blanca Esponda, and Pemex Director Francisco Rojas. The finance secretary and the Pemex director will only travel to Japan.

The presidential delegation also includes Jose Cordoba Montoya, chief of the Coordination Office of the Presidency; Otto Granados, director of social communication of the Presidency; and Arturo Cardona Marino, chief of the presidential staff. Following a brief ceremony in which the customary honors were offered, President Salinas de Gortari and his delegation boarded the Mexican Air Force's Presidente Juarez plane, which will cover this first leg of the longest international routes ever followed by the president. His return is scheduled for Sunday 24 June at noon.

Further on Visit

WA1806164290

For reportage on the official visit of President Salinas de Gortari to Japan, Singapore, and Australia, see the corresponding sections of 18 June East Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Uruapan Elections Show 'Several Irregularities'

PA1506012790 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 9 Jun 90 p 4

[Report by Manuel Roque]

[Text] Morelia, Michoacan, 7 Jun—Ausencio Chavez Hernandez, president of the State Electoral Commission (CEE), has said that the 3 June elections in Uruapan were honest, despite several irregularities. Meanwhile, the state leadership of the PRD (Party of the Democratic Revolution) announced that it will file charges against Armando Lopez Contreras, delegate of the National Electoral Registry, saying that he "trimmed" the electoral register.

Chavez Hernandez, who is also government secretary for the State of Michoacan, said the PRI (Institutional Revolutionary Party] claim of victory is based on partial results and that the official results will be announced by the Municipal Electoral Board on 10 June.

Meanwhile, Alfonso Solorzano Fraga, who is one of the five PRD leaders in Michoacan and a local party coordinator, said that the National Electoral Registry will be asked to explain the disappearance of 3,087 voting credentials and also why 6,903 credentials were not delivered, thereby harming the PRD and favoring the PRI.

The CEE president said that the Uruapan electoral register had been revised according to the census, and "that voters had been excluded, but not because of their party membership." He said that the registry will be studied because it is not perfect.

Meanwhile, Solorzano Fragas said that in Uruapan it was shown that the National Electoral Registry, and not the people, decides who wins and who loses. He said that the Registry took it upon itself to decide who could vote and who could not. Therefore, the PRD will ask that the elections be annulled.

Meanwhile, Chavez Hernandez of the CEE said that he trusts that the "people of Uruapan will prove their civic maturity" on 10 June when the Municipal Electoral Committee announces the official results of the elections. However, the PRD leaderhip in Michoacan announced a mass demonstration led by Cuauhtemoc Cardenas on that day in Uruapan to protest against the glaring PRI electoral fraud.

Meanwhile Armando Ballinas Mayes, president of the PRI State Directive Committee, said that his party's victory in the Uruapan elections is irrefutable. He criticized the opposition for speaking of democracy only when they win and claiming fraud when they lose.

Costa Rica

Calderon Comments on Summit, U.S. Plan

PA1906021190 Paris AFP in Spanish 2338 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] San Jose, 18 Jun (AFP)—Returning from Antigua, Guatemala, where he attended the eighth regional presidential summit, the main topic of which was economic, Costa Rican President Rafael Angel Calderon said he was pleased with the results of the meeting, and he stressed that the presidents agreed that peace now means "social development."

Calderon indicated that the summit, where it was decided to create the economic community of the Central American isthmus, also confirmed the most important political principles of the Esquipulas plan.

According to the Costa Rican president, the most important thing was the fact that economic and development processes will be given priority, and small businesses and self-sufficiency in food supply will be encouraged.

At a news conference today, the Costa Rican president said that a "structural change" is needed in all of Central America to attain "social justice and well-being and to meet all the basic needs" of the people.

Calderon also referred to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's proposal to create an international bloc to channel foreign aid to Central America.

The president said this offer is positive if it means additional support for the region without affecting the bilateral aid already approved for the Central American nations.

El Salvador

FMLN Communique Criticizes Antigua Declaration

PA1906011090 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0017 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Mexico, 18 Jun (NOTIMEX)—The Salvadoran guerrillas today noted their concern that the Central American presidents' declaration attempts to delegitimize the peace dialogue process in El Salvador.

The Salvadoran rebels stated in a communique that the "Antigua Declaration" seeks to delegitimize "the agreement signed in Geneva, which established that before a cease-fire could be agreed upon it was necessary to have prior political agreements to guarantee the democratization of El Salvador."

In the Antigua Declaration announced yesterday, the Central American presidents voiced their support of the efforts of President Alfredo Cristiani's government to secure peace in his country and appealed to the guerrillas to join the demobilization plan agreed to in Tela, Honduras, in 1989.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) and the Salvadoran Government agreed in Geneva last 4 April on the means to secure a negotiated solution to the conflict.

The dialogue was resumed between the conflicting parties in Caracas, Venezuela, where it was agreed to discuss a timeframe for the disarming of the guerrillas and the possibility of a bilateral cease-fire in September.

The FMLN noted that the Salvadoran Government's attitude at the presidential summit held in Antigua, Guatemala "raises questions about the agreement and the government's political will to advance in the negotiations that will begin in Mexico on 19 June.

"The Geneva and Caracas agreements established the agenda and mechanisms to advance in the negotiation process. To attempt to change this situation does not contribute to a successful negotiation," the communique stated.

More on Communique, Talks

PA1906024390 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0105 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Jun (ACAN-EFE)— The Salvadoran guerrillas today accused the government of hindering the negotiations that will resume on 19 June in Mexico when it urged them to cease all military actions without any prior political agreements.

According to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN), this request for ceasing hostilities is contained in the "Declaration of Antigua Guatemala," signed yesterday by the Central American presidents at the end of their three-day meeting.

Through a communique issued today in San Salvador, the FMLN said that the attitude of President Alfredo Cristiani and his government questions the agreement of the presidents and "casts doubts on their political willingness to progress in the negotiations."

The rebel communique added: "We are worried about the efforts of the Salvadoran Government in Asuncion (Paraguay) during the OAS assembly, as well as in Antigua, Guatemala during the Central American summit."

At their eighth summit, the Central American presidents urged the FMLN to "immediately end their military actions and accept a demobilization plan signed last August in Tela, Honduras during another regional summit.

In the "Tela agreements," the rulers of the area urged the Salvadoran guerrillas to demobilize like the Nicaraguan "contras" as part of a peace process in Central America.

This request has been rejected by the FMLN because it deems the reasons for the existence of the two rebel movements as separate.

According to the FMLN, the contras were created in Honduras by the U.S. Government to oust, by force, the Sandinists, who are now in the opposition in Nicaragua, whereas the FMLN was born in El Salvador,where the FMLN insists that it has its bases.

In the communique, the FMLN feels that the Salvadoran Government "is violating" the agreements signed on 4 April in Geneva, Switzerland, by trying to ask for a cease-fire without any prior agreements.

Violating this agreement "does not contribute to the negotiating success" of the talks that were resumed in Caracas, Venezuela on 16 May. During these talks, an agenda on future topics of discussion and a timetable for attaining peace were agreed to.

However, the rebels "fully" agreed with the demilitarization project of the Central American region as contained in the "Antigua Declaration."

The guerrillas' communique insists that "the FMLN welcomes the decision, with which we fully agree, to include the demilitarization of the region on the agenda of the Central American presidents' meeting."

Delegations of the rightist government and of the leftist guerrillas will meet on 19 June in Mexico under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss specific issues related to the democratization of the country and reforms to the Armed Forces.

According to the observers, the issue of the Armed Forces is the most controversial of all those that are subject to negotiation between the government and the FMLN because of the political importance it has in the country's social life.

The other topics are the reforms to the judiciary and electoral systems, reforms to the constitution, reviewing the human rights and political freedoms policy, a social pact among workers, businessmen, and government, as well as the United Nation's verification of these agreements.

Minister on Talks With FMLN, Justice System

PA1906012490 San Salvador SIETE DIAS in Spanish 14 Jun 90 p 5

[Text] Dr. Oscar Santamaria, coordinator of the government commission for the negotiations with the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], has said that although all the topics on the agenda will be discussed in the negotiating process, not all of them will result in agreements.

With this statement, Santamaria ratified what President Alfredo Cristiani has said in the sense that the economic model promoted by the government is not subject to negotiation.

Santamaria, who is also the justice minister, explained that, regarding the "economic-social problem," a point in the agenda approved during the Caracas meeting, certain agreements can be reached, especially on a model for development; however, "the economic plan was supported by the people who voted in the past elections and to abandon it would be tantamount to lying to those who backed it."

However, he noted, "efforts are being made to find a minimum consensus or a framework for a concerted agreement to promote a development plan." Santamaria added that this is the reason for the meetings between the government and the business and labor sectors.

The government official said that, just like as is being done with the political parties, "these meetings are being held to discuss agreements or to reach a consensus in order to discuss them with the government and, later on, present them within the dialogue-negotiation process."

Santamaria maintained that the participation of political parties and social forces must take place under the conditions previously established in the Geneva agreement. He thus ruled out the possibility of direct participation as demanded by labor sectors.

Another topic under discussion is the "judicial system." Regarding this, Santamaria defended the judicial system, noting that despite difficulties, progress has been made in strengthening the investigations and processing systems, and he recalled the creation of agencies that support the judicial branch.

The opposition questions turning civilians over to the military, and it maintains that torture is a widespread practice within agencies that support the judicial branch.

Santamaria replied: "The generalization that torture is being systematically committed cannot be made," adding that flaws are inherent in the formal system of justice and the cultural practices that prevent a correct application of justice.

The very same nature of the judicial system prevents the implementation of spectacular overnight changes, the justice minister concluded, admitting that there are sectors—which he did not identify—that prevent the application of justice.

Weekly Roundup of Guerrilla Activity

PA1806132290

[Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 14 June broadcasts a two-minute report on Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front (FMLN) actions against the Salvadoran Army stating that "on 12 June, rebel forces damaged an Air Force UH-1H helicopter in Jocoaitique, Morazan Department, and inflicted six casualties on the enemy."

Radio Venceremos at 1200 GMT on 17 June broacasts a seven-minute report stating that "the FMLN clashed with Fourth Brigade troops at 1300 on 13 June near

(Aserradero), Chalatenango Department." It adds that a helicopter fired against El Ocotal and Las Joyas, in Dulce Nombre de Maria, jeopardizing the residents' lives, but "was damaged by our forces."

The reports states that "at 1730 on 11 June, an FMLN guerrilla unit occupied Hacienda El Paraiso in Chalatenango Department, damaged its facilities, and seized a Motorola radio communications unit," as well as weapons. It adds that "at 0530 on 11 June, our troops set off three explosive charges against a fifth Infantry Brigade unit in San Bartolo, San Vicente Department, and as a result, the enemy sustained three dead and two wounded."

Nicaragua

Chamorro Terms Results of Summit 'Total Success'

PA1906020090 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0026 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 18 Jun (ACAN - EFE)—Upon her return here today, Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro termed the regional summit held this weekend in the city of Antigua, Guatemala a "total success."

The Nicaraguan president described as a "total success" the results of the summit, which produced a 40-point declaration that includes agreements on economic and politican mechanisms to promote a new period of integration in the region.

"Everything that was discussed during the two days of work was for the good of our republics," Chamorro added.

She noted that during the talks held with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker he voiced "concern over what is happening in our country and throughout the Central American region."

"After talking (with Baker) we reached conclusions, and he expressed his wish to help Nicaragua and all of Central America," the president said.

According to Chamorro, Baker said at the end that he was "very happy and proud" concerning the current situation in Nicaragua and in the rest of the countries of the region."

"I do not mean to boast, but the demobilization (of the contras) and the initial reduction of the Army during the first two months in Nicaragua is something never experienced in other countries," Chamorro stated.

On her arrival in Managua at 1735 hours (2335 GMT), Chamorro was welcomed by members of her Cabinet and by Humberto Ortega, head of the Sandinist People's Army, among others.

ONUCA Spokesman on Disarmament Process

PA1906012890 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2333 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 18 Jun (NOTIMEX)—Angelica Hunt, a spokesperson for the UN Observer Group in Central America (ONUCA), announced today that so far 15,028 contras have disarmed.

The demobilization and disarmament process should have ended on 10 June—which is the date that the government and rebels had agreed to—but it has been delayed for technical reasons having to do with the receipt of the weapons.

The process has already ended in two of the five security zones designated for the disarmament of the contras. Three areas are still pending; these areas contain "an undetermined number" of rebels, according to Hunt.

The number of "contra" troops was unofficially estimated at 12,000 to 15,000, but—according to Hunt—some 1,000 contras still have to demobilize, although "this amount is only an estimate," she explained.

According to unofficial reports, the chief of staff of the anti-Sandinist forces, Israel Galeano, also known as Franklin, will disarm on 26 June.

Meanwhile, the Sandinist People's Army (EPS) has dismissed 1,400 lieutenants and captains in order to comply with the plan to reduce and reorganize the Armed Forces as announced on 15 June by President Violeta Chamorro.

By the early part of August, the EPS will have 41,000 troops, and it will initiate a second stage of reorganization that, according to the plan, will include the high-ranking military officers.

ONUCA Hands Over 4th Security Zone to EPS

PA1606145890 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1300 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Cardenas has handed over the fourth Nicaraguan security zone to the Sandinist Peoples' Army [EPS] on behalf of ONUCA [UN Observer Group in Central America].

Approximately 3,481 rebels demobilized in this security zone. The rebels asked the International Support and Verification Commission [CIAV] to take them to their homes.

Today the ONUCA authorities handed over to the EPS the territory of the fourth security zone located in Las Pinuelas. The territory was handed over after the conclusion of the disarmament and demobilization process. A total of 3,491 [number as heard] Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members demobilized in the security zone. The fourth security zone was officially handed over to the EPS by Lt. Col. Cardenas, who was appointed by General Agustin Quesada of ONUCA to carry out that

mission. It was turned over to EPS Captain Carlos Navas, chief of the General Staff of the 50th Tactical Combat Group. The forces under the command of Cap. Carlos Navas are now in control of the fourth security zone. Most of the rebels who disarmed at Las Pinuelas asked CIAV to take them to their hometowns. Very few of them agreed to go to the development areas that Commander Franklin, RN General Staff Chief, has been promoting.

The disarmament process at the fourth security zone was speeded up because of the combatants' pressure on the RN top leaders. The combatants wanted to return to their hometowns as soon as possible. Most of these combatants are peasants who are used to living in the mountainous areas of region five.

We also learned that the ONUCA military men and the CIAV delegates will leave the fourth security zone tomorrow morning. The Venezuelan troops, better known as Blue Helmets, will do so on Friday.

'Thousands' To Protest Return of Land

PA1806142190 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Thousands of farm workers from the Sixth Region will march today, machetes in hand, to offices of the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry to protest the decision of the relevant minister, Roberto Rondon, to return land to the previous owners.

During a meeting with private producers of Matagalpa and Jinotega Departments over the weekend, Rondon announced that La Trampa, El Quetzal, La Colonia, and El Laberinto production units will be turned over to the previous owners within the next few days. These properties, which belonged to prominent Somozists and big landowners, were confiscated by the revolutionary government and turned over to thousands of farm workers who worked them for 10 years while under attack from the contras.

Adan Rivera Castillo, secretary of the Association of Agricultural Workers [ATC] in that region, has asserted that the peasants are not prepared to let the government of Violeta Barrios destroy the people's property. The ATC leader added that if the government dares to take units of production away from them, the farm workers will seize two private farms, because they paid in blood for the right to own land during the 10 years of revolution.

Contra Leader 'Franklin' Comments on Plans

PA1506182990 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 10 Jun 90 p 5

[Text] El Almendro— Israel Galeano, also known as "Franklin" in the counterrevolutionary ranks, has confirmed here that the so-called Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] will reportedly become involved in a multimillion dollar business of lumber exploitation in this area of southeastern Nicaragua. He also said that "some members" of the RN will reportedly become members of the National Police, because "this has already been arranged."

Before attending a mass officiated over by Cardinal Obando y Bravo and other bishops, the top chief of the contras said "we will promote the programs that are of benefit for the development, production, and exploitation of natural resources."

It could be lumber, Galeano said, but he added that he will also promote reforestation for which he is working with several ministries of the Chamorro government.

To this effect, he said that "we will be represented" in all of the organizations involved in the projects where they (the demobilized fighters) will participate.

He added that "for the time being," the demobilized rebels "will not be able to return to our hometowns."

Concerning the unarmed contras' demands for "security," Galeano said: "This is a commitment on the part of the government," and the main problems right now are food and medications.

Meanwhile, Dr. Santiago Murray, of the OAS-CIAV [Inter-American Verification Commission], said that there is enough clothing and food for the first stage of the demobilization, although the tools and construction materials to ensure the demobilized rebels return to a productive life depend, in great part, on "that portion" of the $30 million granted by the U.S. Governmnent.

That amount will have to be shared by the OAS-CIAV in Nicaragua for the demobilization process and by the CIAV-UN Organization [as published] for the repatriation tasks, as well as by the institute created by the Chamorro government for those tasks.

FSLN Issues Declaration Supporting Leaders

PA1906010490 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] once again showed it maturity and strength by discussing the main problems affecting its party and the country in general, Commander Daniel Ortega has said.

First of all, Commander Ortega said, the FSLN's unity has been reaffirmed and the continuation of the revolutionary plans has been ratified. At the assembly of militants, headed by the National Directorate, which lasted two days, it was agreed that the document will be discussed nationwide to all rank and file groups no later than 20 June.

The document expressed unanimous support for the revolutionary leadership, and the first congress, during which all leaders will be elected by secret vote, was scheduled for next February.

The document also mentioned U.S. agression as the main cause for the electoral defeat. That agression, the document said, caused the loss of young lives, in addition to a grave economic crisis during the past years.

The Assembly of Sandinist Militants issued the El Crucero Declaration last night. The declaration unanimously supported the FSLN's leadership and called for the creation of an ethics commission to effectively check the conduct of each one of the militants.

Because of the significance and historical importance of the declaration, Commander Daniel Ortega read part of the agreements reached:

[Begin Ortega recording, broadcast in progress] ... states that the main cause for the electoral defeat was U.S. aggression, which also resulted in the death of thousands of young peasants, students, and workers who heroically joined the Patriotic Military Service.

In the same manner, as a consequence of the U.S. Government's military, economic, and political agression, the Nicaragua society suffered a grave economic crisis.

The Nicaraguan people continue to be patriotic, brave, and support mankind's most noble causes. The Nicaraguan people are anti-imperialistic, zealous defenders of their dignity and national sovereignty. We all honor the memory of our immortal heroes and martyrs. The military and economic agression, the massive and slanderous propaganda, the blockade, and the blackmailing of allies and friendly governments with the intention of isolating Nicaragua contributed to the economic crisis and made it impossible for us to meet social needs.

The National Assembly of Sandinist Militants, headed by the FSLN National Directorate, believes that the FSLN is still current, that its existence—marked by sacrifices, heroism, and great battles—places it in an untouchable position in Nicaragua's history. The FSLN led to the defeat of the Somozist dictatorship, directed the revolution, established a participative and irreversible democracy,and rescued the fatherland's sovereignty and dignity. For that reason, rightist sectors fiercely attack the morale of FSLN leaders to undermine our authority and hence our existence.

No substantial change—economic development, peace, the preservation of people's culture and the country's prestige, or social changes—are possible without the FSLN's contributions and active participation.

We are fully convinced that the FSLN's unity is vital for our organization's existence and for a victorious end to the struggles that lay ahead. The FSLN's unity is not a sum of men and actions, but the multiplication of men, actions, and new and historical triumphs. Consequently, we have agreed to unite our people; regroup their forces; strengthen their bonds and solidarity among militants and all the people; keep the FSLN's symbols intact; rescue our revolutionary organization's rich and heroic history of lofty dedication; fully democratize its organic structures; oppose with energy, serenity, and zeal the attempts to revert revolutionary achievements; and prepare the militants affiliated to the FSLN's [word indistinct] and all the people to particiapte with renewed enthusiasm in the revolutionary struggle. [end recording]

Government Agrees To Respect FSLN Symbols

PA1606194590 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] The people's organization of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] will confront the attacks launched by the aggressive sectors of the new government. They are trying to wipe out the Sandinist organization. Daniel Ortega Saavedra, FSLN coordinator and commander of the revolution, met last night with 14 September neighborhood residents. He discussed the problems being experienced by FSLN supporters and members. Commander Ortega said that the FSLN has signed an agreement with representatives of the new government. The agreement states that the Sandinist symbols and its heroes and martyrs will be respected. Commander Daniel added that the Sandinists must show that they are capable of and organized enough to defend the agreement.

Ortega Addresses 14 September Neighborhood

PA1606043790 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jun 90

["Excerpt" of speech by Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra in the 14 September Neighborhood in Managua on 14 June—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...the answer, ourselves. It is up to us to decide whether we will be humiliated and offended. It is up to us to defend the achievements of the revolution. It is up to us to decide if the enemy will advance or if we will keep them from advancing. On (?10 June) we held a historic meeting with our fighters and supporters. During the meeting we issued a communique. This communique reminds us that our slogan of Death to Somozism—not allowing the return of Somozism—continues to be valid. There are some sectors that are attempting to turn Nicaragua into the Nicaragua we had before 1979.

On 27 March, after the elections, we signed an agreement. On 27 March, a delegation of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN], headed by Comrade Humberto Ortega, and a government delegation, headed by Antonio Lacayo, signed an agreement. The agreement clearly stated that our symbols and our heroes and martyrs will be respected. It was also clearly stated that the achievements of the revolution will also be respected. However, this is only a document, an agreement, and that is not enough. An agreement is important because it is a starting point to defend what must be defended; however, the agreement is not enough if it is allowed to

remain just a piece of paper. Agreements are just pieces of paper when there is a lack of capacity, firmness, courage, energy, and fighting spirit to defend those agreements in practice. Such an agreement is worthless. It is important that we have an agreement and that the agreement clearly states that abuses will not be committed, that the peasants cannot be stripped of their land, that the thousands of Nicaraguan families who were given homes during all those years the FSLN was in power will have every right to retain those homes, and that the land on which low-income housing was built cannot be seized—all those land deeds distributed during all the years the FSLN was in power. That is all part of the agreement. How do we go about defending that agreement? With organization.

Sandinist Deputy Views Contra Demobilization

FL1606022090 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 16 Jun 90

[Text] Last weekend, Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios attended a symbolic ceremony marking the end of the disarmament of the so-called Nicaraguan Resistance. The truth of the matter is that several thousands of contras have not been demobilized yet. Their top leader Israel Galeano, alias Franklin, is among them. The contras have said that the process will be completed in the next few days although it should have had ended last Sunday. Our special correspondent in Nicaragua interviewed Sandinist Deputy Wicho Marenco on the matter.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Ricardo Muro] The deadline of 10 June is gone, and the counterrevolutionaries have not disarmed themselves yet. As a Sandinist deputy, what do you think about this?

[Marenco] One cannot expect less from the counterrevolutionaries. They have been constantly violating the agreements reached with the Violeta de Chamorro government. It is not strange because they have the support of the church and Cardinal Obando. He is valued among our people—a people that is religious, a people that has been deceived with different ideas and economic falsehoods that are not being complied with, and this armed route, which is the language imperialism imposed on us.

We believe that they [the contras] are not going to comply, much less when Franklin is speaking of keeping a battalion to defend and protect an area. What they want to do with that land is to exploit the wood and live off it as new millionaires as a result of a war. It has not cost them a thing. They have been defeated. The Sandinist Front will know how to lead the people toward the final defeat of the counterrevolutionaries and any government that harms the Nicaraguan people. This situation has already cost a lot of blood, sweat, and tears to the mothers, heroes, and martyrs of this country. [end recording]

Sandinists Admit to Corruption While Governing

PA1606034390 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Jun 90 pp 1, 8

[Text] According to BARRICADA, several FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] members in Managua have admitted that some officials in the Daniel Ortega government are guilty of administrative corruption.

The newspaper BARRICADA, official organ of the opposition party, reported in today's issue that the Sandinists will hold a national assembly next week to prepare for a special congress to be held next year.

The Managua delegation will propose to the National Assembly the creation of a commission to investigate corruption in Ortega's government.

"Through their personal actions, some officials of the revolutionary government have discredited the FSLN," the paper said.

In an internal debate, the Managua Sandinists discussed in depth the causes of the electoral defeat and the FSLN's methods and working style, the report said.

In the same meeting, without going into much detail, the mistakes of some government politicians and the failures of the FSLN's leadership, methods, and working style were pointed out.

According to BARRICADA, this weekend meeting was attended by approximately 300 municipal and district delegates of the FSLN's rank and file committees.

The Sandinist print media have also mentioned the possibility of evicting from the party those guilty of corruption, regardless of their position. It is also suspected that these moves are to draw the people's attention away from the large-scale embezzlement perpetrated between 25 February and 25 April with the entire party's official endorsement.

This also confirms LA PRENSA's reports that cash in the form of cordobas and U.S. dollars, as well as cars, motorcycles, pickup trucks, medicine, construction materials, and thousands of articles, all worth untold millions, were looted by the Sandinists from public offices. It is a shame for these people to continue to be a political party.

"The deep disagreement between various FSLN factions, evident in the weekend assembly, indicate the party's disintegration and do not forecast anything good for the organization's future," a source close to the FSLN said.

The meeting, held at UNAN [National Autonomous University of Nicaragua] yesterday and attended by worker delegates of the FSLN, was marked by strong recriminations among the various factions with regard to who had been responsible for the defeat in the past elections, the source said.

The source also said that some of those present strongly criticized the National Directorate leadership in general, while others referred more specifically to certain members of the directorate, such as Daniel Ortega and Jaime Wheelock, whom the atendants blamed for the economic failure and corruption in the state apparatus.

Others, however, referred to Tomas Borge's extremism, the "inefficiency" of Henry Ruiz and Victor Tirado, and Bayardo Arce's "sprees."

The least criticized was Luis Carrion, currently deputy coordinator of the FSLN's Political Commission, who apparently leads the moderate wing within Sandinism. He seems to emerge as the future strongman, but Borge controls the most radical sectors and is pushing hard for the leadership. Daniel, however, is through, the source also said.

It was reported that the FSLN's Managua regional sector, controlled by Carlos Carrion, Luis' brother, will introduce a motion to investigate the Sandinists' corruption while in office.

A rift in the Sandinist faction in the Assembly has been reported. A group that is attempting to become an alternate national directorate headed by Edmundo Jarquin, Dora Maria Tellez, Rafael Solis, William Ramirez, and Mauricio Valenzuela has emerged.

Yatama Asks for Guarantees To Demobilize

PA1506121890 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] In an exclusive interview with our newscast, Osorno Coleman, alias Commander Blas, military leader of Yatama [Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indians, and Creole Groups Organization] has confirmed that his group is asking the government for guarantees to complete the disarmament and demobilization process in the North Atlantic Coast area.

Commander Blas said that [words indistinct]. The Yatama military leader added that talks with the government have been positive [words indistinct] resume disarmament, which began about three weeks ago and has involved some 790 men so far. Let us listen to Osorno Coleman, alias Commander Blas:

[Begin recording] [Coleman] [Words indistinct] in settlements, because we do not call them development centers. We want economic assistance for each demobilized individual and a prompt solution to the situation of the combatants' relatives who are inside security areas. So far, there has been no assistance whatsoever for the demobilized and their relatives.

[Unidentified reporter] How many have demobilized?

[Coleman] So far 790 have demobilized. The rest will demobilize between tomorrow [15 June] and 20 June.

[Reporter] [Question indistinct]?

[Coleman] [Words indistinct].

[Reporter] How has the government responded? If you have received no assistance, how is it that you are disarming? Are you doing it voluntarily?

[Coleman] Yes, voluntarily, but we had paralyzed the demobilization by one week until we received a positive reply from the government and the CIAV [International Support and Verification Commission], which is in charge of [words indistinct]. They sort of promised to [words indistinct] and therefore, we will begin demobilizing tomorrow. [end recording]

Government Ministry Structure To Remain Unchanged

PA1706202190 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 12 Jun 90 pp 1, 5

[Text] The structure of the Government Ministry will remain as it is because no decision has been adopted on possible changes, Government Minister Carlos Hurtado said yesterday.

He stated: "There is no decision yet on how part of the ministry would be civilian and how another part would be military. This is not very clear, so the Government Ministry will remain as it is. We are going to take our time."

The ministry will have civilian officials serve as regional delegates. Military personnel who head specialized organizations of the ministry will remain in their posts.

The civilian delegates will have political and administrative functions and will be responsible for fulfilling the tasks assigned to them through Decree 1-90. Their tasks include registering real estate property, issuing identification cards, and others.

Hurtado confirmed that the contras will have their own police force, which will be composed exclusively of police who will protect order inside the "development centers" to be established.

The contra police force will be composed of a maximum of 150 policemen, depending on how large the development centers are and on how many demobilized contras they shelter.

The contra police force will be totally subordinated to the Government Ministry, which will have civilian delegates who will be the contras' superiors in the centers.

Hurtado also said that this force will be temporary. It will be replaced by a police force that will be created soon and that, apparently, will include neither Sandinists nor contras.

Regarding the police force in the development centers being composed exclusively of contras, Minister Hurtado said: "The reasons for this are obvious." After eight years of confrontation, the current police force "would not inspire security and trust."

The minister said that last Saturday he went to El Almendro with National Police Chief Brigade Commander Rene Vivas to give institutional weight to the contra police force, but since the contras have not been totally demobilized, this action has been postponed.

Hurtado and Vivas will soon go to Spain to take advantage of a Spanish Government offer to give advisory assistance to the police.

During a meeting with the Agrarian Reform, Agricultural and Livestock Affairs, Environment Conservation, and Preservation of Natural Resources Commission, Minister Hurtado said that his office is working with the Supreme Court of Justice and the Attorney General's Office on a draft to punish cattle rustling.

A new law on this will fill "the legal vacuum" that exists now. This vacuum makes it difficult to punish cattle-rustling crimes. Hurtado said that the Government Ministry believes that courts should be strengthened because right now justice is imparted very slowly because of a lack of resources. Hurtado said that he will ask the presidency for support to improve the country's judicial system.

He also said that there is a shortage of police personnel because the Military Service suspension has produced many vacancies, and because of budget cuts, these vacancies cannot be filled. He said that he will ask the presidency how to resolve this problem.

The minister said that "there is a true national clamor" over the cattle-rustling problem. He noted that now, in addition to the groups and families that traditionally have participated in this activity, there are contra "remnants" involved in the rustling business.

He said that once the demobilization of the contras is over, the Government Ministry and the Army will carry out a joint operation to face the problem. Hurtado has already established contact with military commanders to implement this plan.

Right now, he said, the police are operating in the areas most affected by the cattle rustlers. They have seized "large amounts" of beef and arms at checkpoints established in different areas.

The idea is to discourage the demand for this kind of beef. Besides, Hurtado said, the Government Ministry is working on the formation of a rural police force to fight against cattle rustling. Hurtado offered to meet with his Costa Rican and Honduran counterparts to prevent the smuggling of cattle into those countries.

INRA Official on Contra Demobilization

1606031490 Managua Domestic Service
in Spanish 1818 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Interview with Gustavo Tablada, director of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform, INRA, by unidentified reporters at the Olof Palme Convention Center in Managua; live—broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Tablada] ....proposals from the demobilized forces to guarantee their survival, and so that they may be able to fully join the country's economic, political, and social life once they are demobilized. Yatama [organization consisting of Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indians and Creole groups] is an example. During talks with Commander Blas, he presented a proposal that the three communities that have organized in certain northern Atlantic sectors be helped by the INRA or the Repatriation Institute and the Inter-Ministerial Commission.

We are currently negotiating with the Southern Front, which is led by Ganso and consists of people, meaning peasants, who have been living in the Southern Zone around Rio San Juan to help them solve this problem once they turn in their weapons and are demobilized. We are talking about approximately 2,000 persons—this is what they have calculated—including soldiers, relatives, and others close to their military units. The Irena [Institute of Natural Resources] and the INRA are currently sponsoring this, and we are looking for the appropriate place to relocate these people.

I would like to mention that the government's policy concerning the creation of these development centers is based on the following elements: First, this must be a voluntary decision adopted by those demobilized. No pressure is to be exerted by the government on any group. Second, this is not the only option. All those demobilized do not necessarily have to be located in a single place. There are groups that might decide to go their separate ways and join their families, or to settle in other places around the country. Third, the same principle is applied to those who will be demobilized from the Army in the future. If any group of demobilized Army members want to organize themselves into communities or cooperatives, and if they seek the INRA's help to do this, the INRA will look for a way to do it.

There are no plans to create a secessionist, separate, or marginal group outside Nicaraguan society in any of the cases concerning the development centers to be established for demobilized members of the resistance or the EPS [Sandinist People's Army]. Instead, the prevailing opinion on national reconciliation and unity, and the admission of all these groups that were cast out from society during the war, is that they should be allowed to become part of our society and exercise all their rights and fulfill all their duties like the rest of the Nicaraguans. When talking about rights and duties, we must also take into consideration cultural values.

That we establish a development center in a specific place does not mean we have the right to violate the group's social rights. Instead, we must strive to create the best economic conditions and provide the best organization so that the group can live better and state its overall views while exercising its rights to good health, education, and a job.

[Reporter] My question refers to the cultural genocide denounced by two Atlantic Coast deputies during the last national assembly.

[Tablada] I think that this is part of these group's [word indistinct] efforts because I have yet to understand what they mean by cultural genocide. I do not understand what they mean. If they were strictly talking about cultural issues, none of the development centers represents a threat to the Atlantic Coast Indian groups' cultural values. There is no threat to their language, eating habits, artistic values, etc. The word culture has a broader meaning.

In fact, one of the provisions for creating these development centers concerns respect for the people's right to till the land in the areas where they will be installed. This means that the production that results from these development centers in the future will be closely linked with their cultural values. The idea is to seek ways to economically strengthen the zone where these development centers will be installed with the intention of seeking the country's overall economic development. Therefore, this talk about cultural genocide sounds contradictory to me.

[Reporter] Doctor, I would like to ask you a question. What about the lumber that Commander Franklin will reportedly exploit at a town near the Rio San Juan basin and later export to Spain? There are reports that some contracts have already been signed.

[Tablada] Many things are being said, but this sounds contradictory to me. The question is absurd. The Nicaraguan Government owns all the country's natural resources, including the trees that are still standing, and the trees that the hurricane felled. The Nicaraguan Government is still the owner, and it will use the resources according to its interests and needs. No one has the right to come and adopt the decision to usurp part of the country's resources. This is a sovereign right of the government of the republic.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] already said that he will work in the lumber business.

[Tablada] He may have the idea, just as I may have an idea of traveling in space. This does not mean that I will be traveling in space tomorrow. [laughter heard in the background]

[Reporter] What is the biggest extension allowed for a development center?

[Tablada] What?

[Reporter] The maximum extension of land allowed for a development center.

[Tablada] There is still no definite criteria.

[Reporter] Criteria about how much land?

[Tablada] Let me explain why there is still no definite criteria. For example, referring to the Yatama proposal, which is one of the most compatible proposals we have received about the development centers, they talk about three communities, and each community will consist of 500 persons. This is a specific proposal, right? They have presented a request for a specific geographic point. Now we have to travel there—that is, the National Emergency Commission comprised within the INRA—to see its exact location.

Workers Front Calls for Dialogue With Government

PA1606150290 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] On 7 June the National Workers' Front of Nicaragua asked the government authorities to meet with the workers to determine the percentage of the complementary wage increase that the state employees will receive at the end of the month. The wage increase was agreed upon previously.

Jose Angel Bermudez, leader of the Confederation of Public Employees, said that according to the most recent cordoba devaluations, the complementary wage increase could represent a 50-percent increase in the current salaries.

The workers requested the attendance of the Nicaraguan finance, economy, and labor ministers and the Central Bank president at the aforementioned meeting. The Nicaraguan workers plan to discuss the fulfillment of previous agreements. They will also propose the revitalization of the industrial sector and basic public services.

Government Minister Comments on Police Force

PA1506124890 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1428 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Managua, 14 Jun (ACAN-EFE)—Government Minister Carlos Hurtado, who will travel to Spain tomorrow to request cooperation from his Spanish counterpart Jose Luis Corcuera, said today that "some Sandinists would like to return to the mountains."

In an interview for ACAN-EFE, Hurtado said that at present there is a climate of "relative peace" in Nicaragua "because while some Sandinists refuse to accept their electoral defeat and would like to go back to the mountains, other political groups would like to erase all vestiges of Sandinism from the face of the earth."

Hurtado, who replaced mystic Sandinist Commander Tomas Borge as head of the former Interior Ministry, believes that the Nicaraguan people fear that the police and state security—now under the Army—will continue to be a repressive corps. "We must change that mentality," Hurtado said.

"In the past, state security used to enter a house, search it, and make arrests, and we all know what they did. Now things have changed, and our greatest challenge is adapting the security corps to the new phase the country is going through," Hurtado stressed.

According to Hurtado, there is mistrust and skepticism among the population and within the police force itself. "We are overcoming that situation without traumas, although we must make great efforts to free the security corps from ideological burdens."

The confirmation of Rene Vivas, Borge's confidence man, as police commander has also created a strong controversy in the country.

"Vivas' confirmation caused internal problems. However, in addition to Vivas' being a professional of vast experience, in the transition agreement signed between Violeta Chamorro's government and the Sandinists, we committed ourselves to maintain the ranks within the security corps," Hurtado said.

"The police corps, which is still known as the Sandinist Police, must adapt to the country's new reality. In the past it functioned within a party and a defined system. However, the system has changed, and in that respect Spain can help us change that mentality," Hurtado added.

Hurtado, who will travel to Spain accompanied by Rene Vivas and his Public Relations Director Frank Cesar, will meet with Minister Corcuera, Deputy Interior Minister Santiago Varela, "and possibly with Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez."

"We plan to hold a protocol meeting with Gonzalez, during which we will deliver a message from our president and a rifle that the contras turned over to ONUCA (the UN Observer Group in Central America) to show our appreciation for his efforts in favor of the demobilization," Hurtado noted.

Hurtado's visit to Spain was arranged last month when Santiago Varela traveled to Nicaragua as member of a delegation that participated in a seminar during which the Spanish transition period was discussed.

"We will ask the Spanish Government for support and general advice for the Nicaraguan Police, in addition to cooperation to create new police forces, such as the rural, treasury, antidrug, and civil defense police," Hurtado added.

The cooperation from the Spanish Interior Ministry for his Nicaraguan counterpart could also include a number of scholarships to study in Spain, as well as courses and seminars in Nicaragua conducted by Spanish instructors and technical advice in operational and data systems.

"At present, we are very concerned about drug trafficking, particularly because during the past month we confiscated 500 kg of cocaine in Nicaragua, and we only have a small department to handle such cases," Hurtado said.

"In the past, we had a militarized system, and therefore drug traffickers would think twice before transiting Nicaragua because of the strict vigilance and radar systems; however, it is easier for them now," he added.

Hurtado admitted that there have been desertions within his ministry, and that of the 8,000 policemen during the last phase of Sandinism there are now less than 5,000.

"Those desertions have occurred partly for ideological reasons, because some members did not want to work for a police force under a government that has a different doctrine. Others deserted for economic reasons—for instance, a policeman earns 8 million cordobas a month (32 dollars)," Hurtado noted.

One of the first measures Hurtado adopted shortly after assuming his post—in addition to changing the ministry's name from Interior to Government Ministry—was removing a sign placed by Tomas Borge at the entrance of the ministry building which read "Centinels of the People's Joy."

"Now we must change the name of the police, which will be called National Police instead of Sandinist Police, change the color of the uniforms from olive green to blue, and increase the number and salaries of security corps members," Hurtado concluded.

Panama

Ford Cited on Reported Conditions for U.S. Aid

PA1506123190 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 13 Jun 90 pp A-1, A-1

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Text] It was reported yesterday, 12 June, that the United States conditioned the concession of foreign assistance to Panama on the signing of four bilateral agreements on chemicals control, the exchange of criminal information on drug trafficking, and the patrolling of the national coasts by ships of the U.S. Coast Guard.

The agreements, which have been handled in a very discreet way by government circles, include an accord "on the measures to prevent the parallel production of basic chemicals," which establishes procedures to monitor the international transactions of chemicals reportedly used for processing drugs.

Guillermo Ford, minister of planning and economic policy, said that "Panama is committed to reaching an agreement," when he was questioned yesterday by members of the Legislative Assembly's Budget Commission.

Although Ford said that the Foreign Relations Ministry is responsible for negotiating and signing the aforementioned agreements, a political source who asked to remain anonymous said that the agreements "were practically imposed on Panama by the United States."

The most controversial one of the accords, which was publicly rejected by Foreign Minister Julio Linares, establishes that U.S. Coast Guard ships will patrol Panama's territorial waters. Moreover, U.S. ships will be

able to board any ship they "may suspect" of carrying illegal substances, and they can even sink any suspicious ship.

Three months ago the United States approved an economic assistance package (in the form of loans) of $500 million that will be used for credits and as security for exports and imports between the United States and Panama, respectively.

The United States approved a $420-million donation on 25 May that will be used to "strengthen" public investments, reactivate private investment, support judicial system and financial reforms, and improve police equipment.

According to U.S. recommendations, the economic assistance will also be used for scholarships for training in rural areas and to increase the productivity of the private sector. In addition, the economic aid will be used to improve the Electoral Tribunal, protect the Panama Canal watershed, and help the war refugees of El Chorrillo neighborhood.

According to the same source, "the United States will ultimately impose its will regarding the protection of our territorial waters, despite a presumed opposition of the current government."

The Foreign Ministry's negotiations on the aforementioned agreements, which have not been signed yet, have been held practically in secrecy, and the public statements made by Panamanian Government officials have not clarified the concerns raised by opposition politicians and legislators.

Ford said that the exchange of information will include "fiscal information" on cases of drug trafficking or stock companies only.

Reportage Examines U.S. Patrol Proposal

Government States Position

PA1506231990 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA
in Spanish 15 Jun 90 pp 18, B-12

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Juan Manuel Castulovich has issued a communique stating the national government's position with regard to a U.S. proposal to patrol Panamanian territorial waters for the purpose of investigating "suspicious vessels that could be involved in illegal actions related to drug trafficking."

Castulovich referred to a statement that the local press attributed to Federico Humbert—representing the Panamanian fishing industry—who "severely criticized Foreign Minister Linares' decision that U.S. vessels cannot patrol Panamanian waters."

Here is the communique:

Regarding recent statements published in the local press attributed to representatives of the Panamanian fishing industry in relation to public statements made by the foreign minister, the Foreign Ministry states the following:

1. The U.S. Government has proposed to the Republic of Panama that, through an agreement signed by both sides, officers of the National Maritime Service on board U.S. Navy vessels authorize the detention and investigation of vessels observed to be acting suspiciously as to suggest being involved in illegal actions related to drug trafficking.

2. The Panamanian Government has not accepted the U.S. proposal because of the negative implications such actions would have for the Republic of Panama.

3. After consulting with the National Foreign Ministry Council and the highest Panamanian Government authorities, the Foreign Ministry has publicly expressed its disagreement with the presence of U.S. Navy vessels in Panamanian jurisdictional waters. Any action carried out by such vessels to prevent or control drug trafficking would have to be authorized by officers of the National Maritime Service who would be on board. Consequently, the Republic of Panama would be responsible for any claim for damages derived from such actions, and the responsibility for any deaths or property loss resulting from those actions would fall upon our country.

The detentions and control actions could be based on information or suspicions which, if not confirmed, could give those affected the right to demand indemnification for any damage caused to them.

4. The Foreign Ministry, however, has expressed that the Republic of Panama would welcome the presence in Panamanian territorial waters of U.S. Navy training ships used to train personnel of the National Maritime Service, who would eventually conduct tasks related to the prevention and control of drug trafficking in Panamanian territorial waters.

5. As a result of two incidents—one that occurred nine years ago and another one recently—the national press has published statements attributed to representatives of the Panamanian fishing industry questioning public statements made by the foreign minister with regard to patrols in Panamanian territorial waters by U.S. Navy ships.

For the aforementioned reasons, the Foreign Ministry cannot agree with the statement attributed to representatives of the Panamanian fishing industry. In addition, it clarifies that in the talks held so far with U.S. Government representatives, no reference has been made to the prevention of crimes unrelated to drug trafficking.

Finally, the Foreign Ministry must stress that any agreement that may be reached on such a sensitive point that

affects the Panamanian State's jurisdiction over its territorial waters would have to be subject to the consideration and ratification of the Executive Branch and the Legislative Assembly.

Panama, 14 June 1990.

Deputy Foreign Minister

Justice Adviser on U.S. Aid

PA1506122790 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Ebrahim Asvat, Government and Justice Ministry legal adviser, said there is currently a serious national problem with maritime vigilance and this problem serves maritime piracy, illegal fishing, trafficking of drugs, and smuggling of goods.

[Begin recording] [Asvat] We must admit there is now a serious problem at the national level because of the lack of police and maritime vigilance. Panama cannot exert jurisdictional control over its territorial waters because the National Maritime Service lacks the patrol boats needed to carry out this task. We have received reports on piracy in Darien, illegal fishing in the Las Perlas Archipelago, and illegal tuna fishing in Chiriqui Province. We have reports on trafficking of drugs, smuggling of drugs, and the presence of strangers in Puerto de Obaldia, in the San Blas area. This has not been duly controlled because the National Maritime Service lacks resources and patrol boats. This is the reality. I believe we must take very objective but moderate actions, because this is a problem at the national level. States that cannot control their territorial waters are actually not exerting sovereign rights over their territories, because, in international law, territorial waters are considered as part of a state's territory.

[Reporter] What is the viewpoint of the Government and Justice Ministry regarding the Foreign Ministry's rejection of the aid or assistance the United States was willing to provide, which included patrolling our coasts?

[Asvat] I believe there is some confusion about the level of relations between Panama and the United States. After 20 December 1989, the U.S. Government pledged to offer the Panamanian Government all the necessary assistance that would help in the transition from a military regime security system to a strictly civilian police security system. This includes training courses that have been offered to the national police on the transition, and offering courses to the National Air Service and the National Maritime Service, which is in charge of patrolling our coasts and providing police vigilance at insular areas. As part of this policy, the U.S. Government proposed to the National Maritime Service to give training courses, jointly with the National Maritime Service, in the open sea. Unfortunately, there has been much confusion about the U.S. policy of cooperation with the Panamanian Government. People understood that this cooperation consisted basically of a joint patrolling program, similar to the one Colombia rejected a few months ago. This generated a negative and hasty reaction. [end recording]

Paper Urges Reconsideration

PA1506230890 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Jun 90 p 1-A

[From the "As of Today Column"]

[Text] The disappearance of a shrimp boat in the sector known as Guayabo Cove, a few miles from the Colombian border, is enough reason to be concerned about vigilance over Panama's territorial waters. Panama, which has coasts on two oceans and throughout its territory, lacks the means to control its maritime space. The National Maritime Service has a single patrol boat in operation. According to experts, it requires at least 24 boats to provide suitable vigilance along our coasts. Therefore, it is incomprehensible that the National Government, with no other possible alternative, has rejected the U.S. Government proposal to establish some sort of mechanism to jointly patrol our territorial waters.

Certainly there might be many irrefutable reasons that deal with our national sovereignty with regard to our airspace and territorial waters. However, the unquestioned reality is that we now lack, and will lack over the short run, essential means to enforce our sovereignty. Instead of reaffirming our sovereignty, rejecting the U.S. proposal makes it more vulnerable to piracy and the smuggling of drugs and weapons, which could be carried out with almost absolute impunity. These and other reasons, on which we cannot elaborate because of space limitations, show that it is advisable for the Panamanian Government to seriously reconsider its position on this sensitive matter. Because, without trampling on our sovereignty, it would be very feasible to reach an agreement that permits an efficient guarantee our sovereignty.

U.S. Efforts To End Bank Secrecy Laws Viewed

PA1506190490 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Jun 90 p 13A

[From the "Economic Press" column by Alfredo Behrens]

[Text]**Evil Stick**

The crusade against drug trafficking is making another turn around the banking tourniquet. It is necessary to resist. Years before the struggle against drug trafficking gained notoriety, the United States already wanted to put an end to bank secrecy laws for commercial reasons.

Evaders

The United States is justifiably concerned about the tax evasion that is going on through Panama and other similar banking centers. Besides, some of their banks would like to eliminate the competition they face from banking services such as ours. The best strategy is to cut

the fuse of the dynamite stick placed in the foundations of our competitiveness: the banking secret. Without it, the banking center would definitely collapse.

Allies

To cut the fuse, we must wake up our allies. They are the great corporations that use the camouflage services of fiscal paradises. We must convince these corporations and foreign banks by telling them that there will not be any banking center left free from pressure. To achieve this, we must create a common front with the other fiscal hells.

Narcotics

The drug problem also is important. It is very difficult to attack because it is divided up into millions of drug addicts with voting power or influence. That is why the eradication effort is concentrated in Third World countries, which are paying the highest price in this drama without receiving the benefits of the drug trafficking. The benefits are concentrated in a handful of rascals. Not even farmers get to see the money from the cocaine business.

Vice President Ford on Economic Program

PA1706183390 Panama City Radio KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Planning and Economic Policy Minister Guillermo Ford said that Panama must exert itself to the utmost in every sector of the economy, particularly where exports are concerned.

[Begin recording] [Ford] Nevertheless, we have said that this will entail sacrifices for all groups. We cannot say that one group has to pay the price while another refuses to do its share. We have to get on the right track because there are serious problems in Panama that date back over 21 years. We will try to be more efficient and productive in Panama, and this will increase the demand. We will have a bigger market as the demand increases.

[Reporter] Mr. Ford, the Chamber of Commerce recently said that our country should not only dedicate itself to the service sector, but it should also try to develop its agricultural sector. What is your opinion?

[Ford] I believe that Panama has to exert itself in all the sectors. No country in the world can say: I am only an industrialized nation, or I am only an agricultural country. What has occurred is that the previous regime was very negligent, and it improvised. In fact, it not only improvised, but it also replaced the private sector. What we are doing now is strengthening all the sectors. I believe that top priority must be given to the export of all products—meaning agricultural products and those produced by the Panamanian industry. [end recording]

Minister Ford announced that the national economic program will be totally Panamanian.

[Begin Ford recording] Panama is not going to apply any program. Panama is going to negotiate a Panamanian program. I have said this before, and this is how it is going to be. We have acknowledged our foreign debt. We are going to analyze all the alternatives, but we are not going to import any particular plan. Maybe we can learn from some ideas that were successful in Mexico, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and other countries. However, each country has its own solutions. Therefore, we must apply the formula that corresponds to and benefits the nation.

The United States cannot impose anything on Panama. If we ever want to reform anything it will have to be through the Legislative Assembly. As far as I know, there has been no legislation in this regard. There has been a proposal for an agreement between the United States and Panama to control the crimes resulting from drug trafficking—both money laundering and the trafficking itself—but there have been no agreements on modifying the banking law. The banking law will remain exactly as it is now. [end recording]

Officials on Participation in C.A. Common Market

PA1506122990 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1533 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Panama City, 13 Jun (ACAN - EFE)—Panama, which will participate in a Central American summit on 15 June, is striving to enter Central America's political arena but views with fear the effects of a possible economic integration.

"We cannot improvise the Panamanian economy's incorporation into the Central American economy," Guillermo Ford, Panama's second vice president and economy minister, told ACAN-EFE when he was asked about President Guillermo Endara's participation in the regional summit that will begin in Antigua, Guatemala on 15 June.

Finance and Treasury Minister Mario Galindo was even more emphatic when he said that "no Panamanian recommends that Panama should be integrated into the Central American economic system."

In statements to ACAN-EFE, Galindo warned that "there are many factors that do not permit the immediate integration into the Central American common market." He added: "That market is in a sorry state."

At the Guatemala economic summit, the five Central American presidents will examine the possibilities of reactivating the Central American common market that existed in the 1960's. Endara will participate in the summit as an observer.

The Panamanian Government has insisted that Endara should be an "observer" in the summit, and the Panamanian president has clarified that "there has not been talk of the common market in Panama for many years, and because of this I do not think I should go to the summit as a full participant."

Contrasting with these cautious views and after he participated in a meeting with the Central American vice presidents, First Vice President Ricardo Arias Calderon told a local newspaper yesterday that "Panama should be integrated into the Central American system."

Arias Calderon advocates Panama's participation in the Central American Parliament, and he added that in his government "we cannot avoid thinking about economic integration."

Arias Calderon's view, which seems to stress the political aspects of establishing closer relations with Central America—governed today by conservative democratic administrations—differs from that of the Panamanian ministers who deal with economic matters and businessmen who stress the disadvantages of an integration.

"We must not confuse social or physical integration with economic integration," Ricardo Aleman, president of the Panamanian Chamber of Commerce, recently said.

As arguments against a rapid integration into the regional economy, the Panamanian business leader stressed that "Panama has a budding industry" and services, particularly a banking system, which are "way ahead of the Central Americans."

Ford, who comes from a private banking background, agreed with Aleman when he stated that "the Panamanian economy is unique and it can suffer great distortions or compete at a disadvantage if we do not analyze the integration mechanisms well."

Those who oppose Panama's economic integration into a future Central American common market emphasize that Panama has "a strong currency" (the dollar), which is not subject to fluctuations like the other currencies in the area, and the wages in Panama are higher than those in the region.

Panama's economic integration into Central America "is a very complex issue and I do not venture to express ideas on its advantages or disadvantages, but it is certainly something that must be studied," Galindo said.

Arias Calderon is the only government representative who openly favors a rapprochement in all areas with the Central American countries.

"In the modern world, the real option is not whether to integrate but with whom, when, and in what terms. For small countries like ours, not to do so is to condemn it to be the plaything of others," Arias Calderon warned in indirect reference to his country's absolute economic dependence on the United States.

Arias Calderon said that the concept of a Central American common market "is substantially changing." It is less protectionist and the aim is to "integrate it into international trade."

M-20 Allegedly Threatens Cocle Official

PA1606003090 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2320 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] More than 150 documents that belonged to the former Panama Defense Forces [FDP] were seized yesterday by officials of the Directorate for the Recovery of State Property in Anton District. The directorate officials held a news conference today during which they stated that the documents, consisting of letters from the various military zones throughout the country, were seized from Professor Julio Ortega Ruiz. Following the recovery of the documents, an incident involving Cocle Municipal official Rosa Herrera took place. Herrera helped the directorate recover the documents.

A car driven by a man dressed in a Public Force uniform intercepted the car driven by Jorge Perez Aguilar. The man in uniform asked the other driver to take a small package to Cocle Municipality official Rosa Herrera. When Herrera opened the package, she found a small black wooden coffin with a bullet on top. The following message was enclosed: Rosa Herrera, leave the innocent in peace; your hide is in danger. Signed: M-20 [20 December Movement]

Perez Aguilar, the driver of the car, is being held by the authorities and he has said that he can identify the person who gave him the package. This has led Eusebio Marchosky, director of the Directorate for the Recovery of State Property, to request the help of the Attorney General to ensure the physical safety of those who are helping the directorate in its task.

Columnist Criticizes Ambassador Hinton

PA1906012690 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 18 Jun 90 p 5

["Improvisations" column by Alfredo Icaza: "What an Ambassador!!!"]

[Text] Until today I had been holding back the rattling anger that took possession of me on 16 June when I heard the big news on television:

The U.S. ambassador to Panama, a gentleman whose last name is Hinton and who, fortunately, the people do not know too well yet, thinks he is the co-owner, or something like that, of what remains of the Canal Zone. He has said with accomplished Ku-Klux-Klanish bluntness and disregard for the most elemental norms of diplomacy that his government will not give our very-trampled-by-them country one penny as redress.

Behold this beautiful statement!

In my years as ambassador I never knew anyone like this so-called chief of mission specimen: authoritarian, whimsical, arrogant, ignorant, and stupid....

A man who represents his country in another country must have many good qualities, otherwise when acting or failing his incompetence will become evident.

The gentleman who occupies the U.S. Embassy in Panama right now is not suited for the role for which he has been unfortunately or unwisely picked by either Bush himself or by the State Department, and he is acting as clumsily as any southern plowman from the country to the north.... You know what I mean....

If our current government keeps its crossed arms and tight lips in the face of the very unsuitable statement by Ambassador Hinton, then this attitude will not deserve either sympathy from others or our own consent. On the contrary, it deserves repudiation and criticism from everybody.

Let us remember, people from the interior, the capital, and gringos, what has been said, and presented as an absolute truth, about what happened during the U.S. attack on the installations of the now-defunct Noriega defense forces. The U.S. State Department itself has tacitly and implicitly admitted that during the 20 December 1989 attack, which supposedly was to be centered on the main military headquarters, there was a slip-up of more than 100 meters, a slip committed in spite of the sophisticated weapons that were used in that day's attacks which produced hundreds of dead in El Chorrillo and other neighborhoods, who now clamor for justice!

An indemnity is the logical course of action for a government wanting good relations with ours. Otherwise that government will always have to confront the just cause that backs us and a compensation suit for the incalculable property damage and unjustified deaths produced by an almost imposed intervention, not an invasion, that damaged the very foundations of the fatherland!!!

Linares on Draft Presented to Cabinet Council

PA1606031990 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 14 Jun 90 p 1

[Article by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] Foreign Minister Julio Linares has reiterated that even if the Legislative Assembly does not approve the law on the Betancourt Doctrine, "Endara's government will not recognize any regime that results from electoral fraud or overthrows a legitimately elected government."

The foreign minister recently said: "I want to clarify that foreign policy is dictated by the president of the Republic with the participation of the foreign minister. Even if that law is not approved and implemented, it is the current administration's intention to follow the Betancourt Doctrine."

Approximately 15 days ago, Linares presented before the Cabinet Council a draft bill based on the Betancourt Doctrine. The draft bill states that governments that are the result of electoral fraud or the overthrow of a legitimately elected government will not be recognized.

Asked under what category he would place a government that emerged through force, Linares said: "If a government emerges through force to overthrow and end a dictatorship, that government may be recognized."

We are speaking of a legitimate government being overthrown, Linares said. "However, if an illegitimate government is overthrown to establish a lawful government...we would welcome that situation. I believe that this has created some confusion."

Regarding the Panamanian case, Linares said that here, in Panama, we lived a de facto situation for 21 years...

In conclusion, Linares said: "Here in Panama, the old regime annulled the elections because the opposition (in power today) won by a wide margin. Therefore, how could one not recognize President Endara's regime?"

Further on Revoking Preventive Detention Order

PA1506174790 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 14 Jun 90 p 39

[Report by Aneldo Arosemena]

[Text] More than a dozen close assistants of former dictator Noriega, including former presidents and ministers, the 510 corregimiento representatives and, in general, all of those who made up the General State Council and who were designated by the narcodictator, will be set free and remain free as the result of Prosecutor General Rogelio Cruz' decision to revoke the arrest warrant issued against these officials of the Noriega government.

Cruz revoked Resolution DPG-6-31-90, which ordered the preventive detention of all those who made up the General State Council of the puppet government headed by Francisco "Pancho" Rodriguez. There were charges pending against these officials for crimes against the state's internal security. This decision will benefit approximately 79 former high public officials vested with authority during the government of "Pancho" Rodriguez, who is now at large.

These are the former officials who have had charges of conspiracy against the state's internal security dropped: Marta Amado, who squandered millions while the head of the National Beneficent Lottery; Fermin Herrera, who presided over the dictator's puppet assembly and the 510 representatives; Carlos Ozores Typaldos, former deputy foreign minister; Juan Bosco Bernal, former education minister; Hidalgo Fung, former public works minister; George Fisher, former labor minister; Darien Ayala, former agricultural development minister, and former magistrate Yolanda Pulice de Rodriguez.

EL SIGLO learned that Prosecutor Cruz instructed Judicial Technical Police Director Leslie Loaiza to stop searching for the former ministers, the majority of whom are at large and who formed the General State Council. Other former officials of the Noriega government who are under arrest at present will also benefit from the

prosecutors's decision. They will not be released, however, because there are other charges, from embezzlement to homicide, pending agaisnt them.

There are other former officials who "were spared" the accusation of conspiracy against the state's internal security: Gustavo Gonzalez, former planning minister; Jose Renan Esquivel, former health minister; Augusto Valderrama, former presidential minister; Francisco Sanchez Cardenas, former Social Security Fund director; Pascual Gonzalez, former Civil Aeronautics director; Carlos Orillac, former Idaan [National Water and Sanitation Institute] director; and Angel Jaen, former Inde [National Sport Institute] director.

Benjamin Colamarco, the notorious "commander" of the so-called Dignity Batallions and former IRHE [Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] director, also benefited from the prosecutor's instructions, but "Cola," as his close friends call him, will not be released because there are other charges against him at the Deputy Prosecutor's office.

However, other former colaborators of the narcodictator will not be able to benefit from Cruz' decision. These are Rafael Arosemena, former national bank general manager, who sought refuge at the Mexican Embassy; Rene Bultron, former public works minister; Ligia Castro, former Inrenare [National Institute of Renewable Natural Resources]; the bestial executioner Rodolfo Chiari de Leon, former minister for government and justice, who is in hiding at the Ecuadoran Embassy.

The Attorney General's acquittal order does not apply to Bernardo Dominguez, former director of the Ipat [Panamanian Institute of Tourism]; former Finance Minister Orville Gooding; Dario Gonzalez de la Barrera, former director of the Dima [Metropolitan Sanitation Directorate]; former Mortgage Bank Director Julio Shaik; former Foreign Minister Jorge Ritter; Dagoberto Lara; Cesar Montenegro, former director of the Inrenare; and Jorge Tason, former director of the Price Control Office.

Commentary on Acquittals, Revoking Detention

PA1806234990 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] It now seems that, as if by magic, no one is guilty of the crimes of which they have been accused. It is almost as if the tortures, human rights violations, murders, corruption, rampant robbery, and illegal enrichment that characterized our country during the last 20 years of a fierce and bloody military dictatorship are not serious enough crimes.

With incredible surprise and perplexity, we have seen the Attorney General's Office revoke the detention orders issued against prominent figures of the Noriega regime, who turned illegality into their policy and illegal enrichment into their letter of introduction.

What is happening to the administration of justice in Panama? What is happening to the Panamanian attorney general? What is happening to the Attorney General's Office as a whole? Is it not a serious crime that a group of former Noriega accomplices attacked and usurped the presidential seat while violating the law, the Constitution, and the legitimacy of the authorities elected by the Panamanian people's sovereign will?

By revoking the detention orders against a large group of former Noriega regime officials, the Attorney General's Office is setting an unfortunate precedent of catastrophic consequences for the future of the administration of justice in Panama and for the country itself, which is even worse. If usurping a country's government is not a crime according to the Attorney General's Office, in the near future any assailants could attack those who are currently administering justice, convinced that their actions are not a crime. These assailants will know in advance that their actions do not entail any punishment, since apparently neither torture, murder, nor enrichment through the funds of the Panamanian State and the funds that belong to all Panamanians is considered a crime.

We all know who is who in Panama. We only need to take a look at the properties owned by civilian and military officials, including those who are members of the alleged new Public Force, to easily determine that the wages of those former civilian and military officials would not even be enough to buy a tenth of the properties they own today.

We are very far from wanting to promote revengeful attitudes in Panama. And we are even farther from wanting to influence the Panamanian people's minds to the extent that oblivion or indifference gives way to complicit tolerance of well-known crimes, of which we all have been victims. The legal absurdities of those who are in charge of administering justice in Panama are lighting the fuse of a wave of crimes that will once again explode in our faces.

What do the judicial authorities really want? Do they want new multitudinous demonstrations demanding justice in Panama? Our justice stutters instead of speaking loud and clear when it comes to punishing criminals. And this is not the end of the problem.

The other side of the problem is the detention orders, which nobody abides by in Panama. When will we stop hearing that well-known Technical Judicial Police officials hinder investigations and that no one says or clarifies anything while the astonished Panamanian community observes and studies the situation and keeps quiet?

The Attorney General's Office and the judicial branch are very far from fulfilling what the Panamanian people expect from them. Today, instead of satisfying the Panamanian people's thirst for justice, the authorities have increased it by creating extremely dangerous, explosive situations, because without justice there is no peace.

The revoking of detention orders, the acquittals, the paroles, and the release of most of those who carried out despicable actions against our women's dignity, who tortured other Panamanians, who became rich through illegal means, and who are now allowed to walk on our streets as a prize for their crimes seem to be the prizes granted by those who are currently administering Panamanian justice.

The Panamanian people were promised justice and not indifference toward the serious crimes committed by the previous government. That and only that is what our people should be given, because they deserve it. And it should be given now, because a tardy justice is not justice.

Columnist Scores Acquittal of Former Officials

PA1606160790 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Jun 90 p28A

["In A Few Words" column]

[Text] PANAMA AMERICA reported on 14 June that the attorney general has decided to "revoke the arrest warrants" issued against the civilian followers of Noriega. Without their enthusiastic cooperation, nothing of what happened would have been possible or understandable.

Why does not that same resolution, or whatever they call it, decree that they be awarded a medal of honor for distinguished services to the country, to democracy, and to the defense of human rights.?

When they released Omar Vega Miranda and Ramos Chavarria, why did they not award them the Vasco Nunez de Balboa medal? They could have done the same with dear Papo Cordoba, Pale, Bruce Lee, Del Cid, Adan Pitti, and others. Then Rogelio Cruz could publicly apologize to them on behalf of the nation for all the discomfort they suffered at the hands of a bunch of hoodlums. It would be quite fair.

Manuel Solis Palma is intelligent enough and has the political experience to know exactly where Noriega's folly would end up. However, not only did he abstain from controlling Noriega, he even abetted him by not retreating a single step and eliminating any human obstacle that crossed his path. At the cabinet meetings that he headed (and which were attended by the other persons pardoned by the resolution), no matters of state were discussed. They only debated truly important matters, such as how to ruin someone and which subversive to send to the Coiba Penitentiary. They agreed not to retreat a single step.

Before Francisco Rodriguez was promoted—or should we say demoted—to the presidency, he was comptroller general. In this post he signed, approved, and hid under a mountain of red tape all the outrages the gorrillas committed against the National Treasury. However, according to Rogelio Cruz's enlightened opinion, Rodriguez did not commit any crime.

Carlos Villalaz, former colleague of Rodriguez, used his position to behead anyone who dared to doubt the lunatic's infallibilty. Thanks to his diligent submissiveness and his aggressive stupidity, he committed every crime in our books, from prevarication to complicity and from the abuse of power to involvement in horrendous murders. He particpated in the attack by the Uesat [Special Anti-Terrorist Unit] on the residence of Roberto Diaz Herrera, fully aware that there were women and children inside. Using a loudspeaker, he urged the colonel to surrender. When Diaz Herrera refused, he shouted: "Then suffer the consequences." The consequences were an all-out assault against the house and prolonged imprisonment for Diaz Herrera and all the people inside the building. Many of them were tortured. According to Rogelio Cruz, in all these instances, his dear colleague was merely fulfilling his duty by obeying orders.

Celso Carrizo was Noriega's recreational adviser. To reward him for his moments of recreation, the emperor of all Panamanians spent a fortune to have him elected as deputy. Because he was not elected by the people of Ocu—who could not stand him—Noriega had him elected through a big fraud. If you do not belive me, ask Yolanda [former electoral board president]. Now Carrizo is in constant touch with Bokasa; he tells him how much the people of Panama miss him and that the people cry over him. He tells Noriega that as soon as he gets out of jail and returns, the masses will take to the streets to give him a great welcome that will end in his recovering power—not for 100 days like the other emperor, but for 100 or 1,000 years.

Carlos Ozores is a born apple-polisher. He traveled all over the world praising the merits of Torrijos, Paredes, and Noriega. Tomorrow he will probably go forth and praise Endara's merits. Or perhaps yours, if you are unfortunate enough to be chosen as president, commander, or leader of the revolution or counterrevolution.

I do not know if you realize what the attorney general has just done. He has told all the country's present, future, and potential scoundrels not to worry. He has told them: When a new generation of thieves grabs power again, do not hesitate for one second to help them loot the country and kill, torture, and exile decent men and women. If the dictatorhsip falls, the Rogelio Cruzes of the future will see to it that you are not punished.

Editorial on Amendments, Constituent Assembly

PA1606014890 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 14 Jun 90 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Amendments to the Constitution and a Constituent Assembly"]

[Text] Local political analysts have said much about amendments to the Constitution and the establishment of a Constituent Assembly. The issue has caused uneasiness in certain sectors and confusion among others, and must, of course, be carefully examined without sectarianism and solely for the sake of the well-being of this country, which is under attack from pseudo-nationalists and alleged democracy lovers.

The democracy currently enjoyed by Panamanians and all foreigners who coexist with us must be understood as such; we must not give the impression that it is something superficial behind some kind of disguise. By no means should we give the impression that the militaristic 1972 constitution is adequate for our people. To implement "token amendments" and "patchwork amendments" is tantamount to mixing "water and oil."

We have enough time to establish the foundation of a Constituent Assembly as the most logical alternative for people living in a budding democracy and with a government that we do not doubt would reflect before making mistakes that it might regret later.

Significant changes can be foreseen in certain cases because of the 360-degree [as published] turns already taken, especially during the 80's, by neighboring Latin American countries in their search for much-desired freedom. This also applies to Panama, a nation that has just rid itself of an autocratic and rapacious regime. Our small country is experiencing those changes as well.

We have the necessary tools to make positive changes to lead us toward a better future. Those tools are thinking beings that could elevate the concept of progress to its highest expression. Gentlemen, we still have time to do that. We cannot move backwards. The popular saying that "the world is watching us" is still valid. It is looking at us because it wants to know how Panamanians will make social, economic, and political changes.

Let us show that the pride of a nation without complexes motivates us. The past few years were trying years, and the future will certainly also be difficult. However, the truth is that now is the time for evolution.

Let us then establish a common front to help us make the right decisions for the sake of future generations.

Human Rights Group Cited on U.S. Compensation

PA1506020890 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Jun 90 p 28A

[Report by Manuel Alvarez Cedeno]

[Text] Roberto Troncoso, president of the Panamanian Human Rights Committee, said to LA PRENSA yesterday that talking about human rights strengthens democracy and if the government is not willing to talk about this, then "we are in sad shape."

Troncoso said that the committee will continue to criticize as long as necessary. In fact, he added, "That is why we are not liked by some progovernment political groups, but we will continue to maintain an independent position for the defense of human rights."

Referring to the U.S. invasion that ousted former General Manuel Noriega, Troncoso said that the Panamanian Government must demand compensation from the U.S. Government for the innocent people who lost their lives.

"(The government) should demand the appropriate compensation for the loss of innocent people's lives and for the damage caused to public and private property," Troncoso stated.

He later said that "great and tremendous progress has definitely been made within the restoration of rights that were violated by the previous regime." Nevertheless, "there are still a few things that must be rectified, so we issue an appeal to the national government and urge it to make the necessary rectifications."

The president of the Panamanian Human Rights Committee said that "even though it is true that the (U.S. Army's) objectives were very precise, it is also guilty of grave mistakes, and innocent people have suffered—and the country has also suffered."

Regarding the attitude that the committee will adopt toward the current government, Troncoso said: We will maintain our independent position, totally apart from political parties, because the committee's guidelines do not abide by any political organization's opinion.

"We have criticized the human rights violations that are still perpetrated in Panama and that the current regime is apparently unaware of," Troncoso stated.

We have also been consistently denouncing the raids en masse and the El Chorrillo victims' situation, he added.

Referring to the statement given by Isabel Corro, president of the Committee of the 20 December Military and Civilian Victims, who said that she has yet to receive some support, Troncoso said: "We have not even received a report from her."

Even though we have invited her to meet with us so that we may exchange information and views on the 20 December events, "Mrs. Corro has unfortunately not met with us."

Troncoso explained that Mrs. Corro has even traveled abroad to reveal what in her opinion happened here, but in her own country she has not even filed the corresponding report with the Panamanian Human Rights Committee.

Honduran Foreign Ministry Denies Statement

PA1606012690 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 14 Jun 90 pp A-1, A-2

[Note from the Honduran Foreign Ministry to EL PANAMA AMERICA, as passed along to Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, president of LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA on 13 June]

[Text] 13 June 1990

Tomas Gabriel Altamirano Duque, president LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA:

Regarding today's "Names and Events" column quoting Legislator Mario Rognoni as having said that "no one has made any comments to this effect," allow me to pass along a note sent by the Honduran Foreign Ministry to EL PANAMA AMERICA, which published comments on the issue.

The note reads:

The Information and Press Directorate of the Honduran Foreign Ministry was greatly surprised to read a report to the effect that Democratic Revolutionary Party Legislator Mario Rognoni had allegedly stated the bodies of Panamanians killed in the U.S. invasion were taken to Honduras.

Although it seems improbable that an illustrious member of the Panamanian Legislative Assembly would say such a thing, we feel it is our duty to report that this statement, regardless of its origin, is erroneous.

We would appreciate it if the prestigious newspaper EL PANAMA AMERICA publishes this note.

We avail ourselves of this opportunity to reiterate our appreciation and respect for the Panamanians.

Yours truly,

Eugenio Castro Clepamunt, information and press director of the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Honduras.

Decree Issued on Issuing of Radio Frequencies

PA1506171690 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 11 Jun 90 pp A1,A2

[Text] President Guillermo Endara Galimany and Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, minister of government and justice, have signed a presidential decree that changes Article 1 of Presidential Decree No. 13, dated 9 February 1987, on concessions for the commercial exploitation of radio frequencies.

The presidential decree, signed by President Endara and Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, establishes that the concessions for the exploitation of radio frequencies will be given only and exclusively to Panamanian citizens or Panamanian companies who enjoy full legal rights and who have legal residence in the Republic of Panama. In addition, they must comply at all times with the technical requirements to render the service properly as mandated by law.

Regarding the legal status of the radio corporations, the decree continues that the members of the board of directors, administrators, and the managers of the corporations will have to be Panamanian citizens. Moreover, they will have to meet all the legal requirements Panamanian citizens need to own stock in radio corporations.

As for the capital to operate the radio frequencies, the aforementioned decree states that the capital will have to be in the form of registered stocks, the majority of which will be owned by Panamanian citizens. Any change in the address or property of the company will have to be reported to the Ministry of Government and Justice, which is the entity that will regulate radio operations.

It is worth noting that the aforesaid changes to Presidential Decree No. 13, dated 9 February 1987, were made at the request of members of the Panamanian Radio Broadcasting Association (APR), who told Dr. Ricardo Arias Calderon, government and justice minister, of their interest in speeding up the legal procedures to make the changes.

The president made the official announcement of the implementation of reforms to Presidential Decree No. 13, dated 9 February 1987, to commercialize radio frequencies during a dinner for representatives of the radio industry organized by the APR. Professor Edwin Cabrera, director of the National Media Directorate of the Government and Justice Ministry, as well as other personalities in the radio industry attended the dinner, which was held at the Marriot Caesar Park Hotel.

Students Attack Public Administration Dean

PA1906024990 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 17 Jun 90 p 32-B

[Report by Eduardo Alvarado]

[Text] A large group of university professors told EL PANAMA AMERICA yesterday that students from the University of Panama's School of Public Administration, who belong to a group identified by the acronym MAN, attacked Dean Humberto Giron and Professor Irving Arosemena in an attempt to seize control of the school.

The professors, who were represented by spokesman Federico Ardila, pointed out that the National Advance Guard Movement [Movimiento de Avanzada Nacional] (MAN) is a political-paramilitary group that is an appurtenance of a national political group calling itself "The Tendency" [La Tendencia], which is headed at the School of Public Administration by Cecilio Simons.

The professors' spokesman pointed out that Simons, who was the school's previous dean and is currently on vacation while an investigation on charges [pertaining to his alleged ties to General Noriega] leveled against him ordered by the University of Panama's Academic Council is taking place, is instigating these students to create chaos among public administration students.

During the occupation of the dean's office on 15 June, the students, who never presented "any project containing valid aspirations," stormed into the office, shouted slanderous statements against Dean Giron, and managed to prevail through forceful means. As a result, the dean had to leave the office only to return later in the company of Dr. Miguel Angel Candanedo, secretary general of the University of Panama.

Ardila said that university authoritites must take the proper steps to punish the students involved in this incident, which is just one among other actions that are aimed at destabilizing the School of Public Administration.

[Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish at 2359 GMT on 18 June reports that "the University of Panama announced tonight the suspension as of now of the academic and administrative work at the School of Public Administration at the University of Panama," without giving the reason for the suspension.]

Fishing Industry Official Scores Foreign Minister

PA1506171790 Panama City KW Continente in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Text] Federico Humbert A., president of the National Association of the Panamanian Fishing Industry, has strongly scored Foreign Minister Julio Linares for not allowing U.S. ships to patrol Panamanian waters. We cannot continue to live with the false nationalism of the past, said Humbert. He added: We have to be more objective when we talk about nationalism. I doubt that the relatives of people who have disappeared agree with Minister Linares' current decision.

Argentina

Menem, Aylwin To Meet in August in Santiago

PY1806205390 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1406 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (DYN)—Argentine President Carlos Menem and Chilean President Patricio Aylwin will meet in August in the Chilean capital to review the economic integration between the two countries and to sign a series of documents, possibly including one on the construction of a trans-Andean gas pipeline.

No date has yet been set for the meeting—the first between Menem and Aylwin since they met at the inauguration of the Chilean president—but it is believed that it will be held in late August 1990.

The binational Argentine-Chilean Commission for Economic Cooperation and Physical Integration will meet for the fourth time in the Chilean capital about 30 days before the meeting between Menem and Aylwin is scheduled to take place. [passage omitted]

Meeting With Collor Postponed

PY1806195190 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] The meeting between President Carlos Menem and Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello scheduled for Thursday 21 June in the Brazilian city of Sao Borja, Rio Grande do Sul State, has been indefinitely postponed. The high level of the water in the Uruguay and Parana Rivers have made travel from the Argentine city of Santo Tome across the river to Sao Borja nearly impossible.

Bolivian President Stresses Coca for Development

PY1906003790 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1526 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Salta, 17 Jun (TELAM)—Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora has stated that Bolivia's "coca for development" plan has been accepted as the Latin American position in the quest for alternate development sources for Bolivian peasants.

In remarks to reporters during his visit to Salta, where he is participating with President Carlos Menem in a ceremony to mark the 168th anniversary of the death of General Martin Miguel Guemes, the Bolivian president stated that he and U.S. President George Bush had discussed this topic and considered the adoption of measures to make this plan more effective.

Paz Zamora noted that one of Bolivia's problems is the excessive production of coca leaves, but added that "if we do not get to the root of this economic problem, we will not be effective in our struggle." Bolivian peasants cultivate coca "because they have no other alternative for work," he said.

Regarding the possible creation of a Latin American Common Market, Paz Zamora said that "due to excessive formalism and bureaucracy, we have prevented the people from being united. What we need is unity of the peoples, the businessmen, the workers, and of all those who produce wealth in order to fulfill the objective of a common market."

He recalled the task of the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), the "Andean Pact," and the "Amazon Pact," but "we are working with Menem to create a broader process at the South American level, which is in a better position to achieve progress rapidly." He said that the idea "to integrate means to become more competitive, not less competitive, because that would lead to disaster."

He stressed the potentials of the border committees that were created last night in a ceremony with Menem. They are the Quiaca (Jujuy)-Villazon (Bolivia) committee, and the Profesor Salvador Mazza (Salta)-Yacuiba (Bolivia) committee.

He said that these committees, "conducted by those who live in those zones, not by remote control from the capitals," will help overcome problems in the border regions "on the principle that boundaries unite the peoples, not separate them."

Cuban Embassy Official on Ties, East Europe

PY1806211490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1456 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Rosario, 17 Jun (TELAM)—Emphasizing the level of exchange between his country and ours, Francisco Lopez Segrera, the minister counselor of the Cuban Embassy in Argentina, has pointed out that "there are not only economic and political ties but also cultural ones, as important Argentine artists visit Cuba and great Cuban artists come to Argentina."

In remarks published today by the Rosario newspaper LA CAPITAL, the Caribbean diplomat remembered the ties that existed between Fidel Castro, leader of the Cuban Revolution, and the late Argentine President Juan Domingo Peron.

Discussing the events currently taking place in East Europe, the Caribbean diplomat said that "they are a consequence of an ethical crisis." He emphasized: "That is where socialism emerged, not as an indigenous historical process, but along with the demolition of warmongering Nazism and hand in hand with the Soviet Army."

The Caribbean diplomat pointed out that in his country "this was not the case; therefore, the revolutionary process is indestructible." He finally reiterated "the difference between East Europe and Cuba."

Joint Aircraft Agreement With Brazil Threatened

PY1906011090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1615 GMT 17 Jun 90

["Special report" by Tomas Rodriguez]

[Text] The binational agreement with Brazil to build the CBA-123 passenger plane is about to flop. If this does occur, it will hurt Argentina's aviation industry and undermine the country's prestige.

According to this agreement, Argentina will build 33 percent of each plane and Brazil will do the rest, a cooperation scheme that would take the pressure off the aviation industries of both countries.

The plan for this binational project establishes that Argentina must pay in $12 million, of which $5 million had to be disbursed immediately. Argentina has not supplied the funds and, according to information from Brazil, the agreement is being reviewed at the highest government levels in view of Argentina's protracted noncompliance.

Efforts by Argentine deputies do allow a ray of hope, since it seems that the Argentine Economy Ministry has promised to disburse the $5 million this week, in response to Brazilian demands. Argentina stands to lose a great deal if the payment is not made.

One of the objectives of this project is to reactivate the military plane factory in Cordoba, which is currently working at 50 percent of its capacity. Its 4,600 workers are subject to temporary suspensions. Equally significant for the nation's economy is the fact that 173 firm orders for the CBA-123, including delivery dates, have already been received from abroad.

According to estimates by opposition deputies, Argentina will easily recoup its $12 million investment and then some. These deputies submitted a draft resolution dated 6 June which has not yet been discussed in the chamber.

Cordoba Province Deputy Conrado Storani, Jr., one of the authors of the draft resolution, has said that "it would be a real mistake if the $5 million did not show up this week." He did not hesitate in charging that "the state-owned Somisa [Argentine Iron and Steel Joint Society—Sociedad Mixta Siderurgica Argentina] has $120 million in European and U.S. banks, a maneuver which is not only speculative but is also designed to avoid paying obligations and to ward off the claims of Somisa agents."

The opposition deputies also objected to the refurbishing of the 25 de Mayo aircraft carrier at the Rio Santiago shipyards, a task that will take two years and $180 million to complete. The Radical Civic Union deputies complained that under the present circumstances it is senseless to spend such a large amount of money to repair the carrier, which must sail with an eight-ship escort at extraordinary cost. The opposition has been emphasizing that, to reactivate the Rio Santiago shipyards, it would be more practical to seek Central Bank financing for the purchase of new equipment.

This new equipment would allow the shipyards to build four barges ordered by the Dutch Government. It will be impossible, however, to build these barges until the necessary components and equipment have been imported.

Italian Army Delegation Arrives for Training

PY1906004090 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2323 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jun (TELAM)—A group of Italian Army mountain climbers arrived today to participate in a training program at the Mountain Climbing School in San Carlos de Bariloche as part of a military exchange program.

The members of the Italian delegation arrived in an Italian Air Force plane at El Palomar military base, where they were welcomed by General Gerardo Carlos Rivas, director of the Army Instruction and Education Department; Italian Ambassador Ludovico Di Camerana; Colonel Luciano Alesandro, Italian military attache; and other officials.

The delegation is made up of two officers, four noncommissioned officers, and 36 mountain climbers. They will stay until 7 July to participate in the Flag Day and Argentine independence celebrations.

The delegation will leave for San Carlos de Bariloche tomorrow. An Argentine Army delegation made up of chiefs, officers, and noncommissioned officers will leave for Italy tomorrow to participate in mountain climbing exercises. The Argentine delegation will return to Buenos Aires when the Italian aircraft returns to pick up the Italian delegation.

Bolivia

Interior Minister on Alleged DEA Withdrawal

PY1806233590 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 15 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] Interior Minister Guillermo Capobianco has said that the reported imminent withdrawal of the DEA from the country has taken him by surprise. He added that the government will ask the U.S. Embassy for an official report on the alleged DEA withdrawal.

He said: "Frankly, I am surprised by the international report because we have carried out excellent work with the DEA from all points of view. The results are well known here and around the world."

EFE reported that THE WASHINGTON POST had revealed, from U.S. official sources, that the DEA members will be withdrawn from the struggle against drug trafficking in Peru and Bolivia.

Capobianco said that if the reported withdrawal of the DEA from Bolivia is true the U.S. Government would be mistakenly "leaving a country like ours under very poor condition with the great responsibility of fighting drug trafficking alone."

Minister Rejects Plebiscite on U.S. Accords

PY1806234790 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 14 Jun 90 p 5

[Text] Information Minister Manfredo Kempff has described as "absurd and preposterous" the proposed holding of a plebiscite on the antinarcotics agreement with the United States, especially on Annex 3 under which the Bolivian Army's participation in the antidrug struggle is admitted.

Kempff said that the legally constituted administration makes the necessary decisions on any issue, adding that Congress is the only constitutionally authorized body that can call it to task. The government spokesman said: "The only oversight that we are prepared to recognize is that of Congress, and only congressmen can call us to account for what we do."

Kempff added: "Neither the political parties, the COB [Bolivian Labor Federation], nor anyone else can call the administration to account for its actions, much less seek to instigate a plebiscite on an issue upon which we have already made a decision, a decision by which we are prepared to stand." He said that no one can question the legitimacy of the duly elected administration which is, therefore, responsible for whatever measures are implemented.

"Anything else is a vagary typical of politicians who do not any more know what to do to attract the limelight," the information minister stated.

Cuba's Malmierca Decorated; Agreements Signed

PY1806232490 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2235 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] La Paz, 18 Jun (TELAM-DPA)—Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca was honored in La Paz today with the "Condor of the Andes" medal, the highest Bolivian decoration, as a demonstration of the good relations between the two countries. After being decorated by Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde, Malmierca delivered a speech calling for a united effort by Latin American countries.

Malmierca has been on an official visit since 16 June with the purpose of ratifying several agreements between the two countries.

Agreements for cultural and industrial cooperation and for scientific and technological support in the health field were ratified today. Malmierca will meet with President Jaime Paz Zamora and will also visit the National Congress. He will return to Havana tomorrow.

Comments on Paz, Drugs, OAS

PY1906013690 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] The Governments of Bolivia and Cuba have decided to hold periodic meetings of officials to discuss the implementation of projects and programs of common interest. This objective was confirmed this afternoon during a meeting between Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora and Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca.

Minister Malmierca told Radio Panamericana that important undertakings lie ahead for Bolivia and Cuba, especially in connection with public health, education, scientific and technical cooperation, and sports.

[Begin Malmierca recording] (?We decided) to maintain a fluent exchange, including meetings between area deputy ministers at least once a year in Havana or La Paz, to keep up our positive coordination, our cooperation, and [words indistinct] nonaligned countries. [end recording]

The Cuban foreign minister also said that his country is not faced with problems of drug production and consumption but is actively cooperating in the struggle against drug trafficking. Cuba is the [word indistinct] for the transportation of drugs to the centers of consumption in the developed countries of the world and the government of President Fidel Castro is taking harsh actions against drug traffickers, Malmierca said.

He concluded by saying that his country is prepared to return to the OAS if the other Latin American countries request it.

Further Remarks

PY1906033090 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0203 GMT 19 Jun 90

[Text] La Paz, 18 Jun (EFE)—Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca, who is currently making an official visit to Bolivia, today said that the drug-consuming countries must finance the antidrug struggle and the alternative development programs aimed at replacing coca cultivation with other crops. Malmierca said that the consumption of narcotics is a "horrible" thing and added that the farmers cannot "go hungry to pay the cost" of eradicating coca plantations without replacing them with an alternative crop.

Malmierca stated that "the producers of the raw material" for the manufacture of cocaine "cannot be the only ones that get punished." After Peru, Bolivia is the second-largest producer of coca leaves, the raw material for the manufacture of cocaine.

The Cuban foreign minister said that drug trafficking must be attacked simultaneously at three levels: production, marketing, and consumption.

He said that Cuba "is not plagued by drug addiction" or the production of narcotics, although he did admit that his country "is used as a route [via] for taking the drugs to the large U.S. market." He added: "We have tried to stop this traffic. We have captured, tried, and sentenced scores of drug traffickers."

The minister, who will end his official visit to Bolivia tomorrow, today met with Bolivian President Jaime Paz Zamora and ratified three bilateral cooperation agreements on science and technology, culture, and health. He announced that a "fluent exchange" between the two countries will be encouraged through the institutionalization of annual meetings of high-level officials.

Today Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde decorated Malmierca with the "Condor of the Andes" medal at the grade of Grand Cross. Malmierca also received an "honorary doctorate" from the Greater University of San Andres in La Paz.

According to official information, the Cuban foreign minister will travel to Quito tomorrow and then to Bogota within the framework of his tour through several Latin American countries.

Chile

Matthei Admits FACh Involvement in Executions

PY1806170090 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1642 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] Santiago, 17 Jun (AFP-NA)—General Fernando Matthei, the Chilean Air Force (FACh) commander in chief, has admitted that his institution was responsible for executions by firing squad and for cases of "missing detainees" under the regime of Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

In remarks broadcast today, Matthei, a former government junta member, said "the Air Force has been responsible or is believed to have been responsible for deaths and missing detainees.

"The FACh assumes responsibility for all the things it has done," Matthei added.

However, the high-ranking officer declined to comment on the responsibility of the Army, which is commanded by Gen. Pinochet, for the clandestine burial of political prisoners, which was discovered two weeks ago in Pisagua Bay, 1,530 km north of Santiago. Pisagua was a concentration camp controlled by the military.

The discovery resulted in the retrieval of the bodies of 20 prisoners who were executed by firing squad. Some of these prisoners were officially registered as "released" and were included among more than 700 detainees who were reported as missing during the military government that ended on 11 March 1990.

Krauss Comments

PY1806183990 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss has assessed as positive the remarks made by General Fernando Matthei, the Chilean Air Force [FACh] commander in chief, who indicated that his branch of the national defense participated in a court martial and the executions by a firing squad [fusilamientos] in 1973.

[Begin Krauss recording] I believe that this attitude is, to a certain extent, positive. Concerning the events of 1973 [the year in which General Pinochet took power in a coup d'etat], I would say that we Chileans are probably all responsible for them. It is important to face this responsibility and thus definitely achieve the basic aspirations of unity and reconciliation. [end recording]

Minister Krauss returned last night from the city of Iquique. He pointed out that the cooperation that the government has requested from the Armed Forces was global and that it included all branches of the national defense.

Krauss indicated that if the FACh states that it was not responsible for the events that took place in Pisagua then it will have to be determined who was responsible.

Krauss dismissed the criticism voiced by the National Renewal Party [PRN] which said that a scarcity of resources makes it unlikely that the Pisagua excavations will be continued. The interior minister described this criticism as common.

PDC Official Blames Parties for 1973 Crisis

PY1906031090 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Genaro Arriagada, vice president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], said today that the main groups responsible for the 1973 military coup were not the Armed Forces but the civilian political forces, including his party. Arraigada also said that all the political forces were responsible for the institutional crisis and that the PDC contributed to the crisis with political mistakes, social agitation, and an inability to reach agreements to solve the crisis.

Arraigada noted that it would be untrue to say that the PDC has no responsibility for the crisis. He also said that the sectors that deny any responsibility for the 1973 institutional crisis cannot talk about truth and reconciliation. Arraigada also mentioned the poor relations between the civilian and military sectors, which go back 60 years.

Arraigada pointed out that he agrees with the UDI [Independent Democratic Union] and National Renewal that a difference should be made between political and criminal responsibilities in cases like Pisagua, and that

the people responsible for crimes should be punished in accordance with constitutional and legal regulations.

Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front Claims Attacks

PY1906033890 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] The Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front has confirmed that it carried out the attacks against the houses of Judge Guillermo Navas and businessman Fernando Aguero and against the National Renewal and UDI [Independent Democratic Union] headquarters. The group also confirmed that it murdered Carabineros Colonel Luis Fontaine, retired.

This confirmation was reported in the editorial of a recent issue of RODRIGUISTA, the official publication of the clandestine subversive group. The publication came in the regular mail. The editorial also criticizes the government, labeling it, quote, an agent of antipopular interests, unquote. The editorial also indicates that the government does not have the ability to dismantle the current institutions.

The Front also announces that it will continue its activities. It emphasizes that the criticisms made by the government against the Front, especially from Interior Minister Enrique Krauss, should be directed at another sector.

Admits to Bomb Attacks

PY1906005390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Curico Governor Eduardo Jara Del Rio said that the two bomb attacks that shook this city over the past weekend were perpetrated by minority groups that do not have the peoples' support and only seek to annoy the government.

On Friday, 15 June, a bomb was detonated outside the Curico Criminal Court building. Shortly after noon on Saturday, 16 June, another bomb went off at the Carabineros mausoleum, damaging the crypts. The attack has been repudiated by the Carabineros' high command.

An anonymous phone call today announced that another bomb had been planted in southern Curico. After thoroughly combing the area, specialized Carabineros' personnel established that it was only a hoax.

The people of Curico are worried about the attack since only technical details of the incident have been released. Spokesmen for the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front, who have claimed responsibility for the attacks, have stated that two combat units, which they identified as the Juan Valdemar Araya and the Roberto Nordenflycht units, are active in the zone.

Governor Jara del Rio has for the time being dismissed the idea of holding an emergency and coordination meeting with high-ranking members of the civil police and Carabineros.

Retired Carabinero Sergeant Killed by Youths

PY1806192390 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Report by Cecilia Moran from Chillan]

[Text] Sergio Marquez Riquelme, a retired Carabinero sergeant, was attacked this morning at the intersection of Ecuador and Brazil Avenues in Chillan. With serious wounds in his head and abdomen, he was taken to the Concepcion Hospital where he died.

According to a Carabinero communique, the attack took place this morning at about 0830 when the former Carabinero sergeant, who has many times been linked to cases of missing detainees, was on his way to his work place at the No.7 Cooperative here in Nuble.

According to the Carabinero report, Riquelme was driving his car when he was stopped by two unidentified youths who fired three or four shots at him as he got out of the car.

Two bullets hit Riquelme in the head and abdomen. He was first admitted to the (Hermindo Machin) Hospital in Chillan and later taken to the Concepcion Hospital where he died at 1140.

The Carabineros have established that one of the unidentified youths wore a poncho and a scarf and that the youths used a handgun and a sawn-off shotgun in the attack. According to the police report the two youths then ran away toward the Carretera shantytown along the (Nuble Rupanco) alley.

Riquelme was the target of a similar attack in October 1989 when he was injured in the arm.

Nuble Carabinero prefect Colonel Hector Barrientos Saenz has regretted this incident at a time when the entire country seeks reconciliation.

He said that he hopes that this type of attack will end, but apparently there are people who are still seeking confrontation.

Colombia

Police Report Arrest of 60 Drug Terrorists

PA1806165590 Paris AFP in Spanish 1520 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jun (AFP)—Bogota Police Chief General Octavio Vargas Silva said on 18 June that the fierce war unleashed by drug traffickers against the Medellin City Police is being weakened by the many arrests made by Elite Forces and the Army.

The death of 136 policemen and about 10 soldiers so far this year, besides the frequent massacres, mostly of young men in the low-income areas of Medellin—headquarters for the cocaine cartel headed by Pablo Escobar Gaviria—has resulted in the capture of 60 drug terrorists over the past few hours.

Medellin, the country's second largest city is a textile manufacturing center 500 km north of Bogota. It is the city most patrolled by the police and Army in view of the onslaught of violence by the drug terrorists, after the government declared war to the end to wipe out the drug scourge.

General Vargas said that the capture of the 60 terrorists is an encouraging event in the war against the drug cartels, and that it will serve to strengthen security for the citizens.

He said that the specialized force not only captured the 60 terrorists, but killed nine others when they tried to attack soldiers over the past eight days.

Among the nine dead terrorists were four who were in charge of paying for the murder of policemen. One of them was the head of the Medellin Cartel terrorist group, John Jairo Tascon (alias Pinina), who was killed on 14 June in a safe-house in Medellin.

General Vargas said that the police will soon win the battle against drug terorrism to return normalcy to Medellin and the rest of the country.

Quintin Lame Commander Fernandez on Peace

PA1806191990 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] The Quintin Lame guerrilla group has announced its decision to join the peace process, stating that it has already designed a proposal for the national government.

Gildardo Fernandez, the general commander of this subversive group comprised mostly of Indians, said: We advocate political, not military solutions and, for this reason, we are seeking a dialogue.

The creation of a national constituent assembly, bilateral demilitarization, and the group's support for the development of Indian reservations are key topics of the Quintin Lame proposal, a proposal that does not rule out international mediation.

Fernandez gave his first radio interview in the Cauca mountains. He spoke about the group's willingness to join the peace process. He stated that it is not that Quintin Lame is an armed group that is tired of being underground, but that the group believes that political solutions must be sought in favor of the Cauca Region and Colombia.

Here are Fernandez' remarks:

[Begin recording] [Fernandez] We have been involved in these efforts for approximately two years. When M-19 [19 April Movement] began making proposals to the government, we tried to participate. We tried to participate as members of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNG]. Quintin Lame, as part of the three forces within the CNG—the EPL [Popular Liberation Army], the comrades of the PRT [Revolutionary Workers' Party], and Quintin Lame—looks favorably upon the possibility of dialogue and making a peace proposal, as long as there is some possibility of talking with the government itself and as part of an effort to find certain positive conditions for the guerrilla movement in particular and the Colombian people in general.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the peace proposal of the Quintin Lame movement?

[Fernandez] We have been drafting certain points. These points include the creation of a constituent assembly. We also mentioned the dirty war and a plan to develop the Cauca region. Our proposals concern these three points.

[Reporter] Could you tell us if the Quintin Lame proposals are mainly focused on the demilitarization of both sides, the group's support for the creation of a constituent assembly, and the plans for the development of Cauca Indian communities?

[Fernandez] When we speak of a constituent assembly, we mean that we want all sectors to participate. The people, as a whole, must participate in it. Very positive results must come out of this constituent assembly. In addition, when we speak of the demilitarization of both sides, we mean that this is a key issue in beginning a peace process. As long as the Army remains in the same area where the guerrilla movement operates, it will be difficult to get anything started.

In some areas, the Army has been threatening the lives of certain comrades of our communities and organizations. I believe that the guerrilla movement is currently proposing these three points.

[Reporter] Are you about to begin talks with the government or have you already held talks?

[Fernandez] We have been unable to talk with any government official yet.

[Reporter] Are you going to disband your group and turn in your weapons?

[Fernandez] I believe that such action is possible. Right now, we believe that the simple fact of holding a dialogue—we have not mentioned demobilization or turning in our weapons—is a first step. It is like a first stage. I do not believe that we can talk of turning in our weapons yet. We first have to see some positive signs to take that step. I think that it is possible, though.

[Reporter] Has the Quintin Lame group had any confrontations with the Army or the police?

[Fernandez] When the Army has attacked us and has tried to begin an offensive, we have had to respond. We

have recovered some weapons in these actions. However, we do not believe in directly confronting the public forces like other guerrilla organizations throughout the country.

[Reporter] When you join the peace process, will you do so through the intervention of certain Cauca officials, or will you negotiate directly with the national government?

[Fernandez] We feel that, during this first stage, we must seek direct dialogue with the government. However, later on, we feel that other sectors should participate in the talks, especially when we discuss the national rehabilitation plan. Other people who can give us support in that regard can participate then.

[Reporter] Can one say that Quintin Lame is going through a truce right now, or is it still active?

[Fernandez] We have always remained perhaps a little isolated. I cannot tell you that we are in a truce. As I already mentioned, we do not believe in starting combat everywhere. We are a group that has focused its attention on work organized for the defense of the communities. Therefore, it is not important for us to fight or not have to fight. We believe that our men and weapons are there to defend certain leaders and the communities in the Cauca Region. However, the fact that we are in a calm period and that there are no military activities does not mean that we are in a state of truce. We believe that as long as military forces are not attacking us, we must remain quiet and aloof. However, there is no doubt—we are not in a truce.

[Reporter] Quintin Lame has rejected kidnappings. Are you holding anyone hostage?

[Fernandez] We reject such methods. We believe that such actions go against human rights, so we do not use that mechanism to obtain funds. We have never kidnapped anyone nor are we holding anyone hostage.

[Reporter] Thus, we can guarantee to the Colombian people that the Quintin Lame movement wants to begin a peace process?

[Fernandez] I believe that this is a first option we are offering. We cannot think that we are optimistic about that. We are optimistic in the sense that we believe that we must take these steps and that any future talks with the government must lead to important guidelines for our organization and for Cauca Department. [enitre response as heard]

[Reporter] Is the Quintin Lame guerrilla movement tired of being clandestine?

[Fernandez] That we are talking about a dialogue does not mean that we are tired or defeated. When we are told that perhaps we are defeated, I say we are not. If we have to choose the political path for more feasible solutions, it is obvious that we are willing to take that path. However, it is not because we are physically exhausted. We must be clear about this. It is not true that our guerrilla movement is seeking a dialogue because it is tired. On the contrary, our morale is very high. But we want this dialogue to enrich the Colombian people. This is why we feel that the search for peaceful solutions is something very important in this country.

[Reporter] Is the Quintin Lame movement larger than M-19?

[Fernandez] We do not think we are larger; however, we are a group with certain strength in the Cauca Region. We feel that such strength affects the actions of the military forces. We do not think we are larger, but we have the military capacity to try to defend ourselves any time the guerrilla movement is threatened.

[Reporter] If Quintin Lame begins a dialogue process with the government and then proceeds to a peace process and a general normalization, will you have a place to gather like the M-19 did and like the EPL is doing right now?

[Fernandez] I think there is a possibility for everything. At this time, our group has not thought of gathering anywhere yet. It is something we must look at in the future. If positive results are obtained through negotiations with the government, then if we have to gather later on, it is possible. However, we have not contemplated that yet. [end recording]

11 Civilians, 3 Policemen Killed in Antioquia

PA1906012390 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0120 GMT 17 Jun 90

[Text] More violent actions have darkened the situation in Antioquia even further. Six people were killed in Bello today and five more have been killed in isolated incidents in Medellin's northeastern quarter. The police have also suffered. Policemen Cesar Leal, Ube Rodriguez, and Uriel Angel Cruz were also killed today.

The most serious incident occurred at Ensenadero Brisas del Hato at the entry point to Bello on the northern freeway at 0200. One of the witnesses reported that he jumped into a nearby stream when he saw hooded men approaching. Then the firing began. The victims are Arnoldo and Rodrigo Ortega Rojas, brothers of Liberal Deputy William Ortega Rojas, a member of the directory that Bernardo Guerra Cerna heads in Antioquia. Two minors were also assassinated.

In addition, unidentified people have assassinated five people in the northeastern quarter.

Policemen's Death in Itagui Raises Toll to 12

PA1806153690 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Medellin—A metropolitan policeman was slain last night by paid assassins who entered the main church in Itagui, south of Medellin. Metropolitan Police

spokesmen reported that Lieutenant James Moncada Moncada was attending the evening mass at El Senor Caido Church, in the main plaza in Itagui, when gunmen burst into the place by surprise and fired at him many times.

Moncada, who was 25 years old and had been on the police force for five years, was taken to San Rafael de Itagui Hospital where he died from the bullet wounds he received. This new action raises the number of policemen killed by gunmen in the past few hours to 12.

6 Policemen Killed, 8 Wounded in Medellin

PA1906020390 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jun 90

[Text] Violence in Medellin does not seem to end. The campaign to kill policemen has intensified in the past 24 hours. Six policemen have been killed and at least eight others wounded since 16 June. This critical situation for the policemen in Medellin has led to several new government measures, most of which will be enacted on 19 June when the capital of Antioquia will begin the new day with an additional 700 policemen.

Since March, one policeman has been killed every day in Medellin. One hundred and thirty-four policemen have been killed in the capital of Antioquia Department since March. This number exceeds the total number of policemen killed in the rest of Colombia. In 86 attacks throughout the country this year, 128 policemen—12 officers, 14 noncommissioned officers, and 98 policemen— have been killed. [numbers as heard]

In Antioquia Department, 172 policemen have been killed. Of these, 134 have been killed in Medellin and the rest in other parts of the department. Seven have been killed in Cesar Department and two in Tolima Department.

In view of this critical situation in Medellin, the National Police have issued special measures to protect policemen. The policemen are now always armed and only single policemen will be posted in Medellin. Married policemen will be transferred to other regions of the country. An additional 700 men have been assigned to Medellin and security has been reinforced with helicopters. Apartment complexes will also be built in Medellin to house the policemen. More policemen will also be posted at the Immediate Attention Centers.

Paraguay

Rodriguez Address at the IDB in Washington

PY1506201190 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television in Spanish 1700 GMT 15 Jun 90

[Speech delivered by President Andres Rodriguez at the International Development Bank, IDB, Office in Washington D.C., on 14 June—recorded]

[Text] My dear friend Mr. Enrique Iglesias, chairman of the IDB, your excellencies, ladies and gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure for me to attend this meeting, which has been organized by the IDB chairman whom I cordially thank for this special honor. Mr. Chairman Iglesias has gone out of his way to offer me the opportunity to meet here with distinguished personalities of the international financial and political sectors.

This great nation marks the first leg of a tour of Asian countries that I am now beginning, a tour in which I seek to reflect the new image of a modern and democratic Paraguay, to expand our markets, and to ensure broader cooperation between my country and the economies of these highly-industrialized nations. Tomorrow, I will have the pleasant opportunity of meeting with the U.S. President. We will analyze our countries' mutual relations and ways to increase the traditional links that bind us.

I would like to take this opportunity to emphatically reassert the pledge I made when I became the constitutional president of Paraguay: I promised to work for the consolidation of the democratic system and for the respect of human rights following a long authoritarian period in my country.

I want to reiterate what I said at the opening of the 20th OAS General Assembly that was held recently in Asuncion: The Paraguayan people fervently and consciously wish to live in democracy. The Paraguayan people no longer want to endure the hardships of a dictatorship, to experience the grievance resulting from an absolutist power. We Paraguayans want our country to enjoy a scenario of freedom where the people can really become the masters of their own destiny.

My administration's firm intention has the support of all national political and social sectors. Our intention also seeks to solve the imperative need to solve the socioeconomic problems inherited from the previous regime in areas vital to our development like agrarian reform, education, health, and housing. We have inherited an economy intensely affected by increasing inflation; a system of preferential foreign exchange rates that benefit the imports made by the state and its organizations and that benefit oil imports. The trade balance deficit was swiftly increasing and the international reserves had already reached negative levels despite a strong subsidy from the exchange mechanism. There was a constant fiscal deficit which exerted pressure on the monetary system. Exports were decreasing, private investments were being discouraged and, through capital flight, our national savings were being sent abroad. The delay in servicing the foreign debt was becoming more accentuated.

To revert this process, a free, variable, single exchange rate system was adopted in a free exchange market. Through a great sacrifice we restored the balance in our budget and we are now striving to restore the appropriate

conditions for promoting investment and free development in the private sector, thus raising employment and salaries to a satisfactory level.

My government has adopted measures aimed at alleviating the most pressing problems, channeling our scarce resources toward the rural sector and toward the construction of economic houses.

We are aware that the stability and consolidation of our young democracy is closely linked with the resolution of the structural problems that affect our economy. These objectives are also closely linked to the solidarity and cooperation that we need from developed nations and from the international credit agencies.

Mr. President, we are aware of your understanding and your predisposition toward maintaining and expanding the IDB's financial assistance for the projects which are vital for our economic growth.

The IDB decision to support the construction of the river passage, which is a project shared by the River Plate basin countries, is an example that encourages us to meet another great challenge of our time: the integration and the harmonious development of our region.

Mr. President, we are aware of the magnitude of the problems we must overcome if we are to reach the targets which we have set for ourselves. Yet we feel reassured because we see that we are not alone, that Paraguay has recovered its credibility and its international prestige, and that solidarity is no longer an empty word but has become a real fact for which we feel indebted.

My distinguished and dear friend Enrique Iglesias: Reiterating my great satisfaction with this meeting, I would like to express to you my best wishes for success in your brilliant performance as president of the IDB.

Personally, and on behalf of my entourage, I would like to thank you for this reception and to present you with a small and modest gift as a souvenir of my visit to this great friendly nation. [applause]

Reagan Welcome Seen as Expression of Support

PY1606192890 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 16 Jun 90 p 12

[Text] Los Angeles—Immediately after his arrival in this city, Paraguayan President General Andres Rodriguez was received by former U.S. President Ronald Reagan. The meeting took place at the home of the Republican leader.

It has been learned through President Rodriguez that Reagan was particularly interested in meeting with him to express his satisfaction over the political change in Paraguay and his desire that democracy may be consolidated in the Paraguayan nation.

During the conversation, Reagan briefly mentioned Paraguayan history, noting that authoritarianism has been an ever-present feature of Paraguayan political regimes. He began by recalling Rodriguez de Francia [a Paraguayan dictator of the 19th century], and ended with Stroessner. Reagan said that a period of more than 30 years is an imprudent, exaggerated term for staying in power.

He emphasized that a democracy needs the alternation of power. For his part, President Rodriguez reportedly told Reagan about his pleasure over his visit to the United States, over the welcome by President George Bush, and over the cordial welcome that the former U.S. president accorded him in Los Angeles.

Rodriguez, who reiterated that the historical objective of his government is to definitively build the democratic institutions in Paraguay, told Reagan that he hopes that the United States will provide the support Paraguay needs to promote its socioeconomic development and to strengthen its political transition.

It is believed that the welcome Reagan has accorded the Paraguayan president is a major expression of support because of the fact that Reagan still exercises strong influence on the current administration and because of Reagan's intimate friendship with U.S. President George Bush. In this regard, the meeting with Reagan has been regarded as another significant expression of support—at the most relevant level of U.S. foreign relations—to the government of General Rodriguez, during the visit that the Paraguayan chief of state is paying to the United States.

President, Ministers Comment on U.S. Visit

PY1806211390 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Jun 90 p 4

[Text] President Andres Rodriguez described his activities in the United States as "very positive for Paraguay." He said this during a meeting this morning with members of his entourage at the Century Hotel in Los Angeles.

Rodriguez commented on his visit to the U.S. Congress in Washington, where he held successive meetings with members of the Foreign Relations Committees of both houses. He said that he had briefed the U.S. lawmakers on the scope and goals of the Paraguayan democratization process and had conveyed the need for lifting the sanctions that are preventing Paraguay from benefiting under the Generalized System of Preferences [GSP].

Rodriguez then asked Planning Secretary Washington Ashwell to give his report. Ashwell outlined the talks he held with officials of the IMF, the World Bank, and the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank]. He said these talks have been instrumental "in helping Paraguay to obtain international financing."

President Rodriguez held a significant meeting with IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus who, at the end of

the meeting, voiced his decision to support the Paraguayan monetary and economic reactivation program. Camdessus also expressed his concurrence with a "stand by" agreement that will effectively support the Paraguayan anti-inflationary program.

Mr. Camdessus vowed to personally support Paraguay's negotiations with the Paris Club, negotiations that seek to obtain adequate refinancing of its debt, with reasonable rescheduling. Camdessus promised to call the Paris Club president that same afternoon at 1700 to ask him for a meeting during the first half of October with Paraguayan representatives. He said he will personally follow up on the efforts of the Paraguayan delegation.

Camdessus said he will support Paraguay by explaining the Paraguayan position to the Paris Club. He said he will also support similar negotiations with international financial organizations that could cooperate in promoting Paraguayan development.

An IMF delegation will come to Asuncion late in July to conclude the "stand-by" agreement.

The World Bank regional vice president for the Southern Cone also conveyed his desire to help Paraguay. He said that the World Bank had not given any financial assistance to Paraguay during the past five years because the then finance minister, General Cesar Barrientos, had said that Paraguay did not need any aid. It seems that Barrientos had taken that position because the Paraguayan Government was annoyed by questions asked by international organizations about the country's socioeconomic reality.

A tangible result of the talks with the World Bank official is a possible loan of up to $100 million to implement the Paraguayan Government's programs. Between $30 to $40 million could be disbursed immediately upon signing the respective agreement. This is not a standard procedure for this type of operation and it thus reveals the World Bank's positive disposition toward the Paraguayan Government.

These funds will be earmarked for agrarian reform, housing, and transportation projects.

IDB President Enrique Iglesias also confirmed his desire to support the Paraguayan Government's programs to achieve socioeconomic development. The IDB president's position is regarded as an immediate reaction to the monetary stabilization program adopted by the Paraguayan Government and to the express support of the IMF for this program.

The IDB is reportedly willing to provide a line of credit earmarked for agricultural settlements, ecological protection, and rural roads.

President Rodriguez then asked Paraguayan Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana to give his report. Argana referred to the agreement signed by Nature Conservance [name as published] with the AID during a ceremony held at the U.S. Congress that was attended by President Rodriguez.

Argana discussed the scope of the agreement and the significance attached today in the world to programs for ecological protection. He then reported that an international meeting will soon be held in Brazil to discuss topics related to environmental problems in the region, including those of Paraguay.

As is known, the Mbaracayu Project is a 50,000-hectare forest reserve area which became the property of the World Bank as a result of Paraguay's failure to pay a debt. This is one of the last untouched forest reserves in the region and it is representative of the ecosystem of what is known as "the Atlantic Forest," which is currently suffering an intense campaign of environmental depredation.

President Rodriguez also asked Paraguayan Senate President Waldino Ramon Lovera to give his views. Senator Lovera commented on the meeting he held with U.S. lawmakers, at which time they discussed the GSP. Lovera noted that the Paraguayan Government has recognized some 150 unions and that three union confederations are functioning normally.

He commented that the GSP is applicable to 15 percent of Paraguayan exports and the absence of this benefit is hurting national sectors such as the shoe, printing, and garment industries. He concluded by stating that by reducing the number of job possibilities the sanctions are ultimately affecting the workers.

A U.S. Senate committee will soon meet in Washington to consider the Paraguayan request for ending the sanctions. The Paraguayan Government contends that it is not logical to maintain the sanctions because the factors that prompted them have already disappeared. Lovera said that Paraguayan business representatives should attend the hearing along with the union representatives.

President Rodriguez then asked Paraguayan Chamber of Deputies President Jose A. Moreno Ruffinelli to give his views. Moreno said that the U.S. lawmakers expressed great interest in the political aspects of the new situation in Paraguay. He said there were questions about the electoral organization and the stages of the process. Moreno said he had briefed them on the Electoral Code and on the next steps toward normalizing or democratizing the country.

President Rodriguez also asked Deputy Llorens to make some comments. Llorens emphasized the "critical support" given by the opposition to the undeniable process of changes that has taken place in the country since 2 February 1989. Carlos Alberto Gonzalez, a leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, commented on the remarks he made at his meeting with the U.S. lawmakers. Gonzalez said that he expressed some concern

about the electoral organization, but said that he was confident that the existing problems will be favorably resolved.

Comments were also made about the meeting with journalists at THE WASHINGTON POST, the most influential U.S. newspaper. At that time Guillermo Caballero Vargas made a significant speech to brief the U.S. reporters on the economic achievements of the Paraguayan Government, which has gone from a corporate state type economy to a free trade system.

Caballero Vargas described the meeting with reporters of THE WASHINGTON POST as "a tough test" that he passed successfully. Caballero Vargas also stated that President Rodriguez has demonstrated his democratic convictions and his sincerity by having reaffirmed that he does not intend to stay in power after 1993.

Closing the meeting, President Rodriguez commented on the meeting he held upon his arrival in Los Angeles with former President Ronald Reagan, who lives near Los Angeles. Reagan told Rodriguez that no one would have ever imagined that 95 percent of Latin America would today be ruled by democratic governments elected in popular elections.

Rodriguez Interviewed Before Trip to Taiwan

PY1806185690 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
17 Jun 90 p 8

[Interview with President Andres Rodriguez by Stephen Sheng; place and date not given]

[Text] Asuncion, 16 Jun (CNA)—President of the Republic of Paraguay Andres Rodriguez has said that relations between Paraguay and the Republic of China [ROC] are currently at a high point and that technical and economic cooperation with the ROC is extremely important for Paraguay. The purpose of his visit to the ROC will be to reaffirm friendly ties between the two governments and to study and talk about cooperation and trade between the two countries.

Rodriguez affirmed that communism does not work and has no future. "Communism cannot deceive all people, and those who have been deceived react as the countries in East Europe are doing at this time."

The Paraguayan president emphasized the changes that have taken place in his country, going from an authoritarian power to participatory democracy. Rodriguez pointed out that "sincerity is now the rule in solving problems in the socioeconomic area. This year my government has been characterized by its sincerity in evaluating the situation and the objectives it pursues."

Rodriguez, who appreciates the Chinese for the endurance they have demonstrated in difficult situations, said that Chinese immigrants and investors are welcome in Paraguay.

President Rodriguez has been to the ROC twice. Before departing for his third visit to that country, he was interviewed by Stephen Sheng, CNA correspondent in Paraguay.

Here are the transcribed details of that interview:

[Sheng] Mr. President, what are the motives for your visit to the ROC? Do you have specific topics to discuss with your Chinese colleague?

[Rodriguez] My visit is in response to a cordial invitation I received from my colleague, President Li Teng-hui. I hope to take this opportunity to reaffirm the bonds of friendship between our governments, as well as to study better conditions for cooperation and trade between our countries.

[Sheng] What do you think of Chinese-Paraguayan cordial relations, and how could they be further strengthened?

[Rodriguez] Relations between Paraguay and the ROC are currently at an excellent level. So, keeping them at this level and improving them even further will depend on our creative ability, imagination, and political will.

[Sheng] Speaking of relations between the two countries, what do you think of the technical and economic cooperation?

[Rodriguez] ROC technical and economic cooperation is extremely important for Paraguay.

[Sheng] You have visited the ROC twice, right? What recollections do you have of the Chinese people and government?

[Rodriguez] The best recollections. I have always been treated with great cordiality, both at the official and unofficial levels.

[Sheng] According to some estimates, there are about 6,000 Chinese residents in Paraguay. What is your opinion of these residents? Are Chinese immigrants or investors welcome in Paraguay?

[Rodriguez] Of course they are welcome. The figure you mentioned demonstrates that. The Chinese are welcome, not only as investors, but for the admirable endurance they have unfalteringly demonstrated. You know that on many occasions, endurance is a determining factor in turning a difficult situation into a happy situation.

[Sheng] A fundamental change has been going on in Paraguay since 3 February of last year. What has your government accomplished during that time? Has the march toward democracy solved problems in the socioeconomic area?

[Rodriguez] During the time you mentioned, my country has gone from authoritarianism to a participative democracy. This is the fundamental aspect of the change. From there, applying the same rule, we have sought

solutions to problems in the economic area. The fundamental rule is sincerity. My government's actions in the last year have been characterized by sincerity in assessing the situation and setting objectives. When the rules of the game are clear and the objectives are publicly stated, without any deception, the people put their shoulders to the task and the process inexorably advances.

[Sheng] The changes in the Soviet Union and East European countries have clearly demonstrated the failure of communism. In your opinion, what is the future of communism in Asia and America?

[Rodriguez] How can I make any prediction for the future of a political project that you yourself say has failed? What future can there be for something that does not work? None. What I can say is that the changes that are taking place both in the Soviet Union and the East European countries are very promising.

Police Issue Communique on 14 June Incidents

PY1606034890 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 15 Jun 90 p 10

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Asuncion Police Department has issued a communique to the public on the incidents that occurred last night during a student demonstration.

Among other things, the communique says: "Following discussions with members of the Chamber of Deputies Human Rights Committee and with student leaders, the Asuncion Police Department had agreed to authorize a student march within the area designated for demonstrations in the pertinent Interior Ministry regulation. The Department hereby states its outright rejection of the action of a group of people who, displaying absolute disregard for the commitment made by the above gentlemen of just staging a peaceful march to the Legislative Palace, took advantage of the Police Department's good faith and gathered outside the National Pantheon in clear violation of a well-known ministerial ban on rallies in the downtown area. The actions of these misguided individuals is all the more condemnable because they were carrying blunt objects with which they attacked and seriously injured some security personnel, thus provoking their reaction. There is undeniable evidence of their aggressive disposition which, like on previous occasions, led them to violate a well-known ministerial provision."

Congress Expropriates Stroessner Family Land

PY1506134490 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 15 Jun 90 p 2

[Excerpt] Congress yesterday expropriated two tracts of land owned by former President Alfredo Stroessner and his son, Gustavo Stroessner. According to Colorado Party Deputy Victor Hugo Sanchez, the landholdings were transferred to the Ciudad del Este City Hall, which will build a shopping center and a soccer stadium on the properties.

Congress also expropriated land in Ciudad del Este owned by former Presidential Secretary Mario Abdo Benitez and 767 hectares of land in Cordillera Department, which were transferred to the San Jose Obrero City Hall. The city hall will transfer the 767 hectares to 180 families that have lived there for decades.

The Chamber of Deputies approved the expropriation bills, which thus became the first expropriation laws of this congressional period. [passage omitted]

Communist Party Defends Itself in Communique

PY1706034090 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 16 Jun p 10

[Text] The Paraguayan Communist Party [PCP] has issued a communique to reject charges leveled against it. The communique begins by stating that "the irrational violence used against student demonstrators on 15 June shows once again that there are still supporters of the Stroessnerist, dictatorial methods within the government."

The communique says: "A wide range of excuses has been used to justify repression. Some of these excuses are extremely gross, such as the one used by the chief of police, General Francisco Sanchez, about PCP leaflets showing how to make incendiary bombs." The PCP adds: "We Communists categorically reject this act of provocation by the police. Our party does not sponsor or follow a senseless policy of using terrorist violence against anyone. On the contrary, it is the repressive apparatus that has not yet been dismantled that uses repression and terrorism against social and political movements which are always described as being subversive or communist."

The PCP adds: "Our people have suffered a painful experience of more than three decades of Stroessnerist brutality, which was based on anticommunism and which trampled public liberties and human rights. The current wave of repression against the people's movement of students, workers, and peasants is an ominous sign that there are still advocates of dictatorship in senior government positions, people who refuse to step down and who are defending a privileged minority group."

The communique also states that "the policy and practice of using sticks and kicks against supporters of democratic, popular ideals shows that the repressive apparatus remains intact; the most notorious representatives of it are Interior Minister Orlando Machuca Vargas, General Sanchez, Foreign Minister Luis Maria Argana, and Senator Edgar L. Ynsfran.